

**W H I T M A N
P U B L I S H I N G
C O M P A N Y**



Subsidiary of Western Publishing Company, Inc.

1 2 2 0 M O U N D A V E N U E • R A C I N E , W I S C O N S I N

September 3, 1963

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis 5, Missouri

Dear Eric:

Glad to hear you are back from your vacation in Mongolia. I can't imagine why anyone would want to spend a vacation there, but I'll bet it was very interesting. Hope we can get together soon so you can tell me all about it.

The quotation in Coin World did come indirectly from me. It is reported in my English catalog on page 30 under the penny section. By the way, I am sending you under separate cover a copy of the new third edition which was released just last week.

The information about genuine English coins being melted and used by counterfeiters was taken from Peck's book, ENGLISH COPPER, TIN, AND BRONZE COINS IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM 1858-1958, 1960, page 214. Several citations are given confirming this statement.

Gould's article was, of course, completely irresponsible as usual. Only farthings and halfpennies were made in 1749, and the large shipment of these that came to this country were used to pay expenses incurred by Massachusetts on account of the expedition against Cape Breton. This is reported in "Crosby" on pages 226-229.

Your suggestion about writing an addendum to our book is a good one. There is not too much additional material to add at this time, but certainly something is needed.

Starting the first of next year we will have a perfect place to publish material of this nature. WHITMAN is entering the monthly publication field, and the first issue of our magazine, entitled the Whitman Numismatic Journal, will be mailed on December 16. I am presently in the throes of putting material together and laying the groundwork for this publication.

We want to make this a high-level magazine with worthwhile articles that will supplement information given in all of our catalogs and books. Current prices will be recorded for users of the GUIDE BOOK, etc., and new issues will be reported for users of the World Coin Catalog. We want to include supplementary information and material which is too lengthy to go into the catalogs as well as worthwhile articles on all numismatic subjects.

I would very much like to use your proposed article on the '04 dollar for the first issue. This means we haven't much time left to put it together, but then it should not take a great deal of effort. I would also like to call on you occasionally for stimulating articles similar to those that you have released to other publications.

My summer was pleasant and uneventful. We vacationed in New England and drove through Canada to add to the enjoyment. Kindest personal regards.

'sever,



Ken Bressett
Numismatic Editor
WHITMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY

KEB:jam

December 13, 1963

Mr. Don Taxay
New Netherlands Coin Company
1 West 47th Street
New York 36, New York

Dear Don:

This weekend I will look at the microfilm of the Encyclopaedia Britannica, published in Philadelphia, in 1798. It is a copy of the third English edition with a few American articles and I presume one of those articles is the one on our Mint.

I appreciate you letting me use this picture in the supplement to the Fantastic 1804 for which you will get due credit - unless someone else called it to your attention. Please advise.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

October 23, 1963

October 23, 1963

Mr. Harmer B. Cole, Sr.
177 W. River Dr.
Pennsville, N. J. 08070

Dear Harmer:

Your interesting letter of October 15, 1963 on 1804 dollar matters is most appreciated. I believe you can realize what problems there were in writing such a book.

Although the DuPont family eventually answered my letter graciously I was never permitted to see the coins. The Cohen dollar is, I believe, artificially abused to make it look as though it was in circulation and, apparently, is not over another coin. However, an examination would be helpful in this case.

You asked why Parmelee mentions nothing about it. The Seavey catalogue, as I pointed out on page 103, has a picture of an altered coin and Parmelee did acquire two genuine ones thereafter, one of which he sold off before his collection was auctioned off. I believe I wrote enough about the Cohen dollar, if you will check the index, but since I have no facts that it is over another coin there was nothing to comment about.

I will probably exhibit something in the Philadelphia convention, in December, but will not attend.

As to the differences you point out between the Watters dollar and the Siam dollar, I believe most of these are caused by the position in which the photographs are published and that there are no die differences between them.

If you think there is a possibility of the Cohen dollar being over some other piece you would have to have the cooperation of the DuPont family and I will look forward to a report from you in the event you discover anything. Frankly, I have done so much work on the 1804 dollar I have neglected many other research projects and would be delighted to have somebody else make some new discoveries.

-2-

October 23, 1963

Mr. Harmer B. Cole, Sr.

It was a pleasure hearing from you, as always, and I am at least glad that some of you really read the book carefully.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

October 29, 1963

Mrs. Margo Russell
Coin World
P.O.Box 150
Sidney, Ohio 45365

Dear Margo:

On page 75 of the November 1 Coin World you published a talk given in 1904 by Geoffrey C. Adams about the 1804 dollar. This talk was highly inaccurate and part was quoted on page 98 in "The Fantastic 1804 Dollar" where the citation to a publication in the September, 1904 Numismatist is given.

I think you might send Mr. Anthony J. Fiore, of Farmingdale, New York, a copy of this letter as it seems wrong to publish something without giving appropriate credit to its source.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

RC - Mrs. Ken Prescott

WHITMAN
PUBLISHING
COMPANY

Whitman

REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.

Subsidiary of Western Publishing Company, Inc.

1220 MOUND AVENUE • RACINE, WISCONSIN

November 13, 1963

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores Inc.
400 Washington Avenue
St. Louis 2, Missouri

Dear Eric:

I have no idea whether or not the sale of the Wolfson dollar was legitimate. He told me, shortly before his death, that he definitely intended to sell it, and I believe that a transfer of ownership did take place. What the price was, or who received the piece, is anybody's guess. I am afraid we will have to record this piece as "undisclosed."

Goldsmith's in Canada reports having a '04 dollar for sale. A friend of mine is pushing for all of the information possible, and there is a slight chance that I will have an opportunity to examine this coin. There is no question in my mind but that it must be a phoney, but I would like to verify this assumption.

Best wishes to all of the family. How was your daughter's wedding last month?

Sincerely,

WHITMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY

Kenneth E. Bressett

Kenneth E. Bressett
Numismatic Editor

EA

KEB:ca

Whitman Numismatic Journal

1220 MOUND AVENUE • RACINE, WISCONSIN 53404



R.S. YEOMAN

Editor-in-Chief

K.E. BRESSETT

Managing Editor

NEIL SHAFER

Associate Editor

ED METZGER

Advertising Mgr.

December 9, 1963

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores Inc.
400 Washington Avenue
St. Louis 2, Missouri

Dear Eric:

It was certainly nice to hear from you and to learn that you have been hard at work once again on the subject of the 1804 dollar!

I have a nice picture of the top of the Siam box which we can use. There is no need to forward your picture.

I also have a nice picture of the ⁱⁿunderside of the box, but do not feel that it would be entirely possible to identify the coin varieties from this photo. At any rate, I don't think it would be of exceptional value to even try to report on particular varieties. It would, of course, be important to note that the half dollar is not one of the crushed edge restruck pieces, and whether or not all of the other pieces are original proof or specimen strikings. I will send you my picture if you think it necessary. It is probably the same one that you have, however,

Sincerely,

WHITMAN NUMISMATIC JOURNAL

Kenneth E. Bressett
Managing Editor

KEB:ca

Dec 14, 1963

Dear Don:

I examined on microfilm the 1798 Encyclopaedia and the picture of the Castaing machine. Unfortunately your source gave you the wrong data. The article is copied straight from the British edition of the Encycl., the picture is English as the dies show a George III coin. And to top off the entire subject the article in the American edition was actually published in 1792, six years before its ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ printed published date. Those skunks in 1792 post dated their book so it would be current by the time all volumes were finished. It began in 1790 and the Coinage article was out in 1792. The U.S. Mint had not even opened by the time this article was published. The explanation of the operation of the Castaing machine is very much in order and I may use this in my "Updating the Fantastic 1804 Dollar" article.

Yours in the exciting field of research,

Eric P. Newman

December 19, 1963

Mr. Kenneth Bressett
Whitman Publishing Company
1220 Mound Avenue
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Ken:

I am enclosing what I have written on the 1804 dollar matter to supplement the book. Please read it and if you have any suggestions I will be glad to hear them.

If it published, it might be published as a separate part of your magazine which can be removed and inserted into the book. You may have additional published material which you wish to have included in the appreciation.

I have tried to be humorous with respect to Mr. Bareford and can assure you he will never speak to me again. I have tried to be tactful with respect to Messrs. Stack and Schulman, while punching them in the nose.

I am also admitting an error as to the 1804 Eagle because I was deceived by the silver one and had never seen a gold one.

My very best wishes for the Holidays.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES



ST. LOUIS 30, MISSOURI

December 20, 1963

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil
St. Louis 5, Missouri

Dear Mr. Newman:

We acknowledge with thanks your recent gift:

The Fantastic 1804 Dollar by Eric P. Newman
and Kenneth E. Bressett.

Your thoughtfulness is very much appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "John M. Strecker".
John M. Strecker
Chief of Acquisitions

JMS:sc

Whitman Numismatic Journal

1220 MOUND AVENUE • RACINE, WISCONSIN 53404



R.S. YEOMAN
Editorial Chief
KEN BRESSETT
Managing Editor
NEIL SHAFER
Associate Editor
ED METZGER
Advertising Mgr.

December 30, 1963

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis 5, Missouri

Dear Eric:

This is just a quick note to tell you that your typescript concerning additions to the 1804 book has arrived. I glanced at it, because of my great interest in the subject, but must confess that I have not been able to read it in the whole, which must be done before I can comment on it.

Please forgive my negligence and give me a few more days to get caught up on end-of-year business. After that time I will go through your work and get active on this project once again.

The article seems to be very interesting, and I am certain I can use it in the JOURNAL - perhaps in the March issue.

Happy New Year to you!

Sincerely,

WHITMAN NUMISMATIC JOURNAL

Ken Bressett
Managing Editor

KEB:ca

Whitman Numismatic Journal

1220 MOUND AVENUE • RACINE, WISCONSIN 53404



R. S. NEWMAN
Editorial
K. E. BRESSSETT
Managing Editor
NEIL SHAPIRO
Sales and Circulation
ED. METZGER
Advertising Manager

January 22, 1964

Mr. Eric P. Newman
400 Washington Avenue
P.O. Box 14020
St. Louis, Mo. 63178

Dear Eric:

This letter is much too long overdue, and I trust you will find it in your heart to forgive me for putting off what turned out to be the very enjoyable task of wading through your manuscript.

I like it very much! As usual, there is little that can be said in the way of improving upon your work. I know that you will probably want to rearrange some of the material and polish it up a bit before publication. There is certainly nothing technically wrong with what you have done, and the only comment that I can make is that which I have said before. I certainly believe that it would be far too egotistical on our part to include the chapter in appreciation of all of the reviews.

On page seven you have toned down the fact that Haseltine described only one variety of the 1804 Dollar. I feel certain that he must have known about the two varieties, and on page 91 of our book you have described it as a "deliberate omission."

I have a photograph to illustrate the top of the Siam case. This can be used with the article when published in the magazine.

Unfortunately the 1804 book is one of a scant half dozen books in our line which are larger than the format of the WHITMAN NUMISMATIC JOURNAL. The page size of our JOURNAL was intentionally designed to be that of most of the books in our line. When the 1804 article is run in the JOURNAL it will be in a section that can be cut from the magazine and inserted in the 1804 book. Unfortunately, the page size will be wrong, but there is nothing that can be done to remedy this.

Full speed ahead with the project, and when this is done, I hope that you will be able to do a few other short articles for us!

Sincerely

WHITMAN NUMISMATIC JOURNAL

Kenneth E. Bressett
Managing Editor

KMB:ca

EPW

January 24, 1964

Mr. Don Taxay
New Netherlands Coin Company
1 West 47th Street
New York 36, New York

Dear Don:

Whitman has asked me to put in final form
new matters relative to the 1804 dollar book.

I would like to have from you the source
of your statement to me that the 4 came off the
Favata piece in the course of cleaning when
the owner had it.

I also would like to know if it is positive
that it was in the hands of the Secret Service
before the ruling in alterations was changed.

Thanks.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPW/atb

Jan. 22, 1964

Dear Eric,

Thank you ~~xxxx~~ for the new enclosures. You probably have forgotten, but it was I who called the Randall article to your attention a few months ago. As for writing about your nickel, I frankly would not know what to say. The laboratory report is indeed fantastic, but what does it mean? That the coin was struck from a home-made alloy outside the Mint? That the Mint ran out of tin and was using nickel to alloy its bronze? That the Minter and Refiner was non compliant? Your guess is as good as mine -- or perhaps better, depending on what it is. I would like very much to run a test on a 1913 Liberty Head nickel, but who would be fool enough to lend me their specimen. Stack's! Perhaps one of the owner's of this coin would trust you sufficiently to allow it to be lent out? What do you think?

When you were here last, you will recall that we talked turkey for a while about Ben Franklin. I have since had the opportunity to go through all the Longacre material, and can add the following: Years before Longacre worked at the Mint he was selected to design the plates for a book on the lives of the Continental Congressmen. He was told, in this connection, that when Congress, in 1762, was in the process of choosing the eagle as a heraldic supporter to the shield, ~~xxxx~~ Franklin jokingly proposed the rattlesnake and the wild turkey as being more appropriate. Although Longacre treated the anecdote as reflecting Franklin's honour, there ~~xxxxxx~~ are nevertheless two sketches of turkeys (from the head up) among Longacre's drawings of eagles. If you care to use this information, be my guest, but kindly do not pass it on, as the price of research is too high!

In your first ~~xxxxxxxtxxxxxx~~ article on the Con. Dols. you say that there is no pertinent information on them in the JCC. What about the PCC and Morris' diary for 1776? Have you personally gone through these two items? Kindly let me know as I intend to research this thing through to its conclusion.

By the way, do you know the nature of Stack's conspiracy ~~xxxxxx~~ conviction, and do you think it would be possible for Arco's lawyers to get copies of this data from the Govt.?

Favata sold the 1804/02 dollar to a man named Heller, who, in attempting to darken the coin in a solution of liver of sulphur, lost the ~~face~~ ~~face~~ 4. It was this Heller who called the Treasury Dept. Favata sold the coin to him after he had received your letters stating that the coin was an alteration, and after I had so published it in Coin Wholesaler, a copy of which he had obtained from Margo Russell. I do not recall the entire chronology of the affair, nor is it necessary, for I am informed that a precedent was set in a western court, many months ago where a man was convicted of ~~xxxx~~ possessing a numismatic alteration, under the regular alteration law. The Government's stand will be that the law always existed and that a "non enforcement" of it by the Treasury department does not ~~xxxxxx~~ or did not ~~xxxxxx~~ constitute its non-existence. In short, they do not consider the new interpretation as ~~xxxxxx~~ rendering previous cases ex post facto. It is a dubious approach, but they have this precedent and apparently feel that the case will not suffer in this respect. I just learned yesterday that Cappola tried to make a quick sale of the piece, or rather a trade, for gold ~~xxx~~ coins at the Chase Money Museum. It is very important that none of this be published or otherwise bruited about because they have not as yet pinched Cappola and are playing the whole thing with great acrobaticness. If you cannot hold up your 1804 dollar supplement for a few months, I would ask that you say no more than that the coin was advertised by Messrs. Cappola and Favata, and subsequently (and also previously) debunked. But leave the Government out of the picture. Otherwise it will put me in a bad light as I am their confident in the matter.

I will look forward to your Numismatist article, together with the pun.

I assume Walter is getting married since he has said so. Subscription price for his scale is \$5. I hope I have ~~not~~ presented a sufficient array of topics to still retain your interest.

Best
Tom

p.s. Have just read the first installment

of your article. Very, very interesting

MEMORANDUM

February 3, 1964

TO Mr. Don Taxay

FROM Eric P. Newman

Dear Don,

I will fumble my way along with the 1804 Dollar matter so as not to upset any confidences as I have no intention of mentioning names. All I wanted to say is that the 4 fell off, just as another 4 did on another coin many years ago. I will be quite discrete.

As to the 1913 nickel in the copper-nickel 95-5 combination, I imagine this was an experimental planchet made in the Mint to see what would happen if the copper content was increased substantially.

As to borrowing a 1913 Liberty Head nickel for the purpose of content testing, no one would give one to me because they could guess what I would be out to prove. I think we can assume that those coins are 75% copper and 25% nickel as they look exactly the color of regular nickels. My thought was that you would use the laboratory report as the basis of an article about the copper one, but I want to read the lab report first. I may be in New York on February 10.

EPN/atb

February 14, 1964

Dear Randy,

Would you be nice enough
to send me Item 475 from Coin
List 119, which I just received.

A check is enclosed.

Sincerely,

Mr. Randolph Zander

EDWARD R. BARNESLEY, *NUMISMATIST*,

Collector of American Colonial and State Coins, Member of ANS, ANA, and MANA.

111 S. STATE ST., NEWTOWN, PA.



TELEPHONE: WORTH 8-2098

February 18, 1964

Dear Eric:

I got to New York City last Friday and spent a precious half-day tracking down that 1807 "Coin Dealer". All of the NYPL 19th Cent. newspapers are now at a new location as you can see by the enclosed leaflet, and I had a heck of a time finding the right paper. At last I came up with the following three advertisements from the NEW-YORK EVENING POST, Saturday, February 7, 1807:

Spanish Dollars.- The highest premium given for Spanish Dollars, by Nathaniel Prime, 42 Wall Street.

Dollars Wanted.- The highest premium given for Spanish Dollars, by Lebleus Loomis, 45 Wm. Street.

Spanish Dollars.- The highest premium given for Spanish Dollars, at No. 37, Wall-street, opposite the Branch Bank by William Leffingwell.

Well I guess such fruitless research is what helps keep numismatics ticking! I only bought two lots at the stack Sale one of which was the nice set of four Connecticut brokages and double strikes (lot 249).

Faithfully yours,

Ed Barnesley

February 19, 1964

Mr. Randolph Zander
3217 Martha Custis Drive
Alexandria, Virginia 22302

Dear Randy:

I received the trial piece from the Thonnellier Press and was disappointed to find that it did not have a date on it. You indicate that this piece is listed in V Guilleaux 2796, and I am wondering if you can send me a Xerox copy of the portion of the listing referring to the item.

The reason I need it is that I am writing a slight supplement to "The Fantastic 1804 Dollar", and want to point out that the experimentation of the Thonnellier process took place in 1830, even though it was not written up, officially, until about 1833. Of course, if the date, 1830, is merely a guess, then I will be brokenhearted.

The piece is definitely struck in a smooth collar and has raised flat borders and beading around the inside of the borders.

If you do not have a Xerox available, perhaps you could copy out the text, if it is short. I would be most grateful.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

bc

Mr. Kenneth Bressett

RANDOLPH ZANDER

FOREIGN COINS, MEDALS
AND NUMISMATIC BOOKS

3217 MARTHA CUSTIS DRIVE
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22302

23 Feb 64

Dear Eric -

The ~~piece~~ piece is illustrated on the 2^d of two pages, the first of which has the heading "ESSAIS 1830-31." Most of these ESSAIS are not dated.

The piece is listed in the catalogue under a group (2792 - 2810) of ESSAIS, sandwiched between the TYPES COURANTS 1830 & the TYPES COURANTS 1831.

Moreover, however, is there an explicit statement that these ESSAIS were struck in 1830-31.

I wonder if a note to VINCEY or BOURGEOY might not produce the desired information in usable form? The introduction to Louis Philippe's coinage in V&G is all political, not a numismatic work in the 1 1/2 pp. So one must go elsewhere.

I much regret fail'g to provide the inundated data that you need & that aren't here.

Abashedly.

Raz

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April 22, 1964

Mr. Barlow Burke, Prothonotary
284 City Hall
Philadelphia 7, Penna.

Dear Mr. Burke:

In accordance with my telephone conversation, I am very anxious to locate the file of Civil litigation in the Common Pleas Court in Philadelphia under the style "James V. Dexter vs. Chapman Brothers". I do not know the number of the case. I do not know the court to which it was assigned. I do know that it was set for trial on February 14, 1887. It apparently was filed in 1886 to have reached a trial date by February 14, 1887. It is possible that the defendants could have been Samuel H. Chapman and Henry Chapman instead of Chapman Brothers.

If you have no index, it occurred to me that the court docket or minutes on February 14, 1887 would show some action with respect to the case.

I would be very grateful for your cooperation in locating this file.

Very truly yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

cc
Mr. Kenneth Brissett

April 22, 1964

Clerk of the United States District Court
Federal Building
Philadelphia, Penna.

Dear Sir:

Would you be kind enough to look in your index of cases for 1886 to determine whether a case under the style of James V. Dexter vs. Chapman Brothers was filed in the Federal District Court in Philadelphia. I do not have its number. "Chapman Brothers", the defendant, consisted of Samuel M. Chapman and Henry Chapman. The case was to be tried on February 14, 1887 and was postponed. If the court minutes of that date are available perhaps that might be the simplest method of locating the case number. If you have an index of plaintiffs and defendants, then, naturally, that would be easier.

Unfortunately I do not know whether the case was filed in a state or Federal Court and would appreciate your courtesy in looking up this matter as to whether it was filed in the Federal Court.

I will appreciate your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC F. NEWMAN

EFN/abb



OFFICE OF THE PROTHONOTARY

COURTS OF COMMON PLEAS, COUNTY COURT, *Civil Division*

D. Barlow Burke, Prothonotary • Benjamin C. Clark, Principal Deputy • Americo V. Cortese, Second Deputy

ROOM 284, CITY HALL, PHILADELPHIA 7, PA.

April 24, 1964

Eric P. Newman, Esq.
400 Washington Avenue
P. O. Box No. 14020
St. Louis, Mo. 63178

Re: JAMES V. DEXTER vs. CHAPMAN BROTHERS

Dear Mr. Newman:

I am having a search made of all of the
dockets of the Courts of Common Pleas for the years you
mention, for the above action. The fee for this will be
\$10.00, payable by cash, check or money order to the
order of the Prothonotary. It will expedite the search if
you will remit the fee promptly.

Very truly yours,

D. BARLOW BURKE
Prothonotary

April 27, 1964

Mr. D. Barlor Burke, Prothonotary
Courts of Common Pleas
Room 284, City Hall
Philadelphia 7, Penna.

Re: James V. Dexter vs.
Chapman Brothers

Dear Mr. Burke:

Enclosed is the check for \$10.00 which you
requested and if you find the case I would like
a copy of the petition or complaint.

Sincerely yours,

MIC P. NEWMAN

MF/tb

CLERK'S OFFICE
ROOM 2004
W. HALTON SPANN, CLERK

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA
U. S. COURTHOUSE
NINTH & MARKET STREETS
PHILADELPHIA, 19107

TELEPHONE
WA-2-4380

April 28, 1964,


Eric P. Newman, Esq.
400 Washington Avenue
P.O. Box 14020
St. Louis, Mo. 63178

RE: James V. Dexter vs. Chapman Brothers,
filed ap rox. 1836.

Dear Sir:

Replying to your letter of April 22, 1964, please be advised that the records "minute and docket books, etc.," of this office prior to the year 1911, have been forwarded to the Archivist Office of U. S. Courts, National Archives Washington, D.C., on or about December of 1956.

Very truly yours,
JOHN J. HARDING,
Clerk

3 
J. J. Harding
Deputy Clerk

May 5, 1964

Archivist's Office of the United States Courts
National Archives
Washington 25, D. C.

Gentlemen:

I am desirous of obtaining copies of the petition and answer in the case of James V. Dexter vs. Chapman Brothers (Samuel V. Chapman and Henry Chapman) filed in the Federal Court, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1886 or possibly 1885.

The only definite date I have is that the matter was set for trial on February 14, 1887 but was continued or disposed of.

Would it be possible for you to look at the index of cases, or the minute book for February 14, 1887, to see if this case can be located. If so, would you be kind enough to advise me of the fee for the photocopies. This information is being sought in connection with an historical article I am writing.

I would be grateful for your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb



OFFICE OF THE PROTHONOTARY

COURTS OF COMMON PLEAS, COUNTY COURT, *Civil Division*

D. Barlow Burke, Prothonotary • Benjamin C. Clark, Principal Deputy • Americo V. Cortese, Second Deputy

ROOM 284, CITY HALL, PHILADELPHIA 7, PA.

May 5, 1964

Eric P. Newman, Esq.,
400 Washington Avenue
P.O. Box No. 14020
St. Louis, Mo. 63178

Re: JAMES W. DEXTER vs. S. HUDSON CHAPMAN and
HENRY CHAPMAN, JR. t/a S.H. AND H. CHAPMAN, JR.
C. P. No. 4, March Term, 1886 No. 468

Dear Mr. Newman:

The case in which you are interested has been located under the above Court, term, year and number.

I enclose herewith certified copy of the complaint in this matter. Your fee was sufficient to pay for the search and also this copy; and our cashier's receipt for \$10.00 is also enclosed.

The case did not go to judgment. It was discontinued, and so marked on the dockets.

Very truly yours,

for: D. BARLOW BURKE
Prothonotary

Enc.

In the Court of Common Pleas, No. 1
of March Term, one thousand eight hundred
and eighty-eight.

Philadelphia
County, ss.

S. Hudson Chapman and Henry Chapman, Jr., co-partners trading as
S. H. and H. Chapman, Jr.

late of the County aforesaid, were attached to answer

James V. Dexter

of a plea of trespass on the case, &c.

Whereupon the said James V. Dexter

by Thomas Dewitt Cuyler his Attorney complain
for that whereas, heretofore, to wit: on the fourteenth day of May 1885

at the County aforesaid, in consideration that the said Plaintiff,
at the special instance and request of the said Defendants, would
buy of the said Defendants, a certain Silver Dollar of the Year
1804, at and for a certain price or sum of money, to wit: the sum
of One thousand dollars, to be therefore paid by the said Plain-
tiff, they the said Defendants, undertook and then and there faith-
fully promised the said Plaintiff, that the said Silver Dollar of
the Year 1804 then was a true and genuine Silver Dollar of the
Year 1804, coined during that year. And he the said Plaintiff
ever, that he, confiding in the said promise and undertaking of
the said Defendants, did, afterwards, to wit: on the day and year
last aforesaid, to wit: at the County aforesaid, purchase the said
Silver Dollar so represented as aforesaid, of the said Defendants,
and then and there paid them for the same the said sum of money,

to wit; the sum of One thousand dollars, nevertheless, the said Defendants, contriving and intending to deceive and defraud the said Plaintiff in this behalf, did not perform or regard their said promise and undertaking so by them made as aforesaid, but thereby craftily and subtly deceived and defrauded the said Plain-

tiff in this, to wit: that the said Silver Dollar of the year 1804, was not a true and genuine Silver Dollar of the year 1804, coined during said year, but on the contrary thereof, was a re-strike, coined at a later and subsequent date, and a Silver Dollar of no use or value whatever to the said Plaintiff, whereby the said Plaintiff hath lost and been deprived of the use and benefit of the said Silver Dollar and of the sum of money paid for the same; and the said Plaintiff hath sustained great trouble, expense and loss, to wit: the sum of Five thousand dollars, to wit at the County aforesaid, and therefore he brings suit.

And also, For that Whereas the defendant^s on the *fourteenth* — day of *May* — in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and *eighty five* — at the County aforesaid, were — indebted to the plaintiff in *Five thousand* dollars, for goods then and there sold and delivered by the plaintiff to the defendant^s at *their* — request:

And also, in the further sum of *Five thousand* dollars, for goods then and there bargained and sold by the plaintiff to the defendant^s at *their* — request:

And also, in the further sum of *Five thousand* dollars, for work then and there done, and materials for the same provided by the plaintiff for the defendant^s at *their* — request:

And also, in the further sum of *Five thousand* dollars, for money then and there lent by the plaintiff to the defendant^s at *their* — request:

And also, in the further sum of *Five thousand* dollars, for money then and there paid by the plaintiff for the use of the defendant^s at *their* — request:

And also, in the further sum of *Five thousand* dollars, for money then and there had and received by the defendant for the use of the plaintiff^s

And also, in the further sum of *Five thousand* dollars, for money found to be due from the defendant^s to the plaintiff on an account then and there stated between them:

And also, in the further sum of *Five thousand* dollars, for interest then and there due and payable, for the forbearance by the plaintiff at the defendant^s request, for moneys before then due and owing from the defendant^s to the plaintiff

And the defendant afterwards, to wit, on the day and year last aforesaid, at the County aforesaid, in consideration of the several last mentioned premises, respectively then and there promised the plaintiff to pay *him* — the said several last mentioned moneys respectively, on request; yet the defendant^s have disregarded *their* promises and have not paid any of the said moneys, or any part thereof, to the damage of the plaintiff — dollars.

And therefore *he* brings suit, &c.

John Doe, }
Richard Doe, } Pledges, &c.

*Thomas Reed at Counsel
for Plaintiff*

Certified from the record this FIFTH
day of 14th / APR, 1964

D. EARLOW BURKE

Prothonotary

By A H Vollman

Court of Common Pleas, No. 11

4th Term, 1882

James P. Barker

vs.
John Adams Chapard
et al.

Shirley B. Barker, Clerk of Court, 1882

Verdict

To the Jurors of said Court:
Before you on Defendant in above
case to plead in eight days or Judg-
ment, see 1882

James Barker

WED JUN 19 1882

IMPORTANT

This document has been borrowed
from the Records Storage Center

Box 4261

May 8, 1964

Archivist's Office of the United States Courts
National Archives
Washington 25, D. C.

Gentlemen:

You will be pleased to receive this letter.

The request I made in my letter of May 5, 1964 to have you locate the pleadings in the case of James V. Dexter vs. Chapman Brothers, in the Federal Court in Philadelphia in 1886 is cancelled. I have located the pleadings.

In view of the conscientiousness with which your office has always given service to those of us who do research, I am glad that you are relieved of this particular request.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

May 8, 1964

Mr. D. Barlow Burke, Prothonotary
Court of Common Pleas
Room 284, City Hall
Philadelphia 7, Penna.

Re: Dexter v. Chapman
C. P. No. 4 -
March Term, 1886
No. 468

Dear Mr. Burke:

Thank you, very much, for locating the detail of the above-mentioned case and sending me a certified copy of the complaint.

While I understand that the case did not go to judgment, I am wondering whether there was an answer filed on behalf of the defendants and, if so, I would like to obtain a copy - unless it is merely a general denial. I would also like to have the name of the attorney who represented the defendants if the file shows that data.

If there are any other pleadings, I would appreciate being advised so that I can order them.

Your cooperation is most appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

E:W/att



OFFICE OF THE PROTHONOTARY

COURTS OF COMMON PLEAS, COUNTY COURT, *Civil Division*

D. Barlow Burke, Prothonotary • Benjamin C. Clark, Principal Deputy • Americo V. Cortese, Second Deputy

ROOM 284, CITY HALL, PHILADELPHIA 7, PA.

May 12, 1964

Eric P. Newman, Esq.,
400 Washington Avenue
P. O. Box No. 14020
St. Louis, Mo. 63178

Re: DEXTER vs. CHAPMAN
C. P. No. 4, March Term, 1886, No. 468

Dear Mr. Newman:

This will reply to your letter of May 8th with further reference to the above matter.

I am having a photostat copy made of the docket entries in this matter, which will show you the process of the case. The fee for this will be \$1.50.

There would appear to be four papers in the file, which, although they are not in the best condition, we will have copied for you upon payment of the fee of \$2.00 each, or a total of \$9.50 for them and the docket entries. We will appreciate receiving the costs in advance, by cash, check or money order.

Very truly yours,

D. BARLOW BURKE

Prothonotary

May 13, 1964

Mr. D. Barlow Burke, Prothonotary
Court of Common Pleas
Room 284, City Hall
Philadelphia 7, Penna.

Re: Dexter vs. Chapman
C.P. No. 4 - March Term, 1886
No. 448

Dear Mr. Burke;

Enclosed is a check for \$9.50 for the four documents in the above-mentioned file and for the photostat of the docket entries.

I will appreciate you sending me these papers promptly.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION



National Archives and Records Service
Washington 25, D.C.

May 13, 1964

IN REPLY REFER TO: NCRD

Mr. Eric P. Newman
400 Washington Avenue
Post Office Box 14020
St. Louis, Missouri 63178

Dear Mr. Newman:

Thank you for your letter of May 8, 1964, which cancelled the request made in your letter of May 5, 1964, for information related to the case of James V. Dexter Vs. Chapman Brothers.

We are always pleased to assist you in your research efforts.

Sincerely yours,

W. Neil Franklin

W. Neil Franklin, Chief
Diplomatic, Legal, and Fiscal Branch

Office of the
Prothonotary of the Courts of Common Pleas
and
Clerk of the County Court, Civil Division

D. BARLOW BURKE
PROTHONOTARY & CLERK

ROOM 284, CITY HALL
PHILADELPHIA 7

BENJAMIN C. CLARK
PRINCIPAL DEPUTY

AMERICO V. CORTESE
SECOND DEPUTY

May 14, 1964

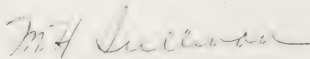
Eric P. Newman, Esquire
400 Washington Avenue
P.O.Box 14020
St. Louis, Mo. 63178

Re: JAMES V. DEXTER v. S. HUDSON CHAPMAN, ET AL
C.P.#4, March Term, 1886, No.468

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith ^{are} ~~is~~ certified ^{copies} ~~copy~~ of the ^{Docket} ~~entries~~
Entries, Praeipce, Plea, Summons & Rule
issued by the Court in the above-entitled case.

Very truly yours,


for: D. BARLOW BURKE
Prothonotary & Clerk

Encs-Cert.Copies-Dockt.Ent.,
etc.

MARCH TERM, 1886.—C. P. No. 4.

232

James V. Dexter

Madison Chapman and

John Chapman, Jr.

vs. H. Chapman, Jr.

1886, 28, 1886. Rule to show cause

1886, 19, 1886, 210

1886, 1886

1886, 1886. No. 1886

This case is discontinued,

James H. Will Cuyler

Att'y for Plaintiff

Att'y for Defendant

1886, 1886

James V. Dexter

Ex. Med. 1886

Rel. Nov. April 1886.

Service accepted

June 6, 1886. Bond for costs in
plea approved & filed.

Certified from the record this 14th

day of MAY A. D., 1964

D. BARLOW BURKE

Prothonotary

By G. H. Volmar

Dear Sir
I have the honor to acknowledge
the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst.

and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded
to the proper authorities for their consideration.

Yours faithfully
Wm. H. Burleigh
July 10th 1878

Very respectfully,
Wm. H. Burleigh

Certified from the record this 14th
day of May A. D., 1964

D. BARLOW BURKE

Prothonotary

By *James P. [unclear]*

468 Recd. 2.10.86

Wm. L. G. L.
Thompson and Co.
Recd. J. L. Brown
at 7-10

PAID JUL 7 " 1886

COUNTY OF PHILADELPHIA, SS.

Summons.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,

TO THE SHERIFF OF THE COUNTY OF PHILADELPHIA, GREETING:

WE COMMAND YOU,

that you summon

William B. Brown and Lewis Brown of the County of Philadelphia

to answer to the writ

late of your County, so that *they* be and appear before our Judges, at Philadelphia, at our Court of Common Pleas, No. 1, for the County of Philadelphia, to be holden at Philadelphia, in and for said County of Philadelphia, the first Monday of *June*

next, there to answer

James V. Brown

of a plea of trespass on the case, etc. And have you then *to* this writ

Witness, the Honorable

the

15th day of *June*

day of *June*

President of our said Court, at Philadelphia, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight

Prothonotary.

John V. Brown

Certified from the record this 14th
day of MAY A. D., 1964

D. BARLOW BURKE

Prothonotary

By James P. Pastore

James V. Apple

S. Hudson Chapman et al

The Right Honorable James V. Apple
place into a suit upon the Riffle stone case to
be made in favor of judgment for by

S. R. C. R.

R. C. Apple
May 24
At 11:45

The City Council
for the City
May 18 1886

Certified from the record this 14th
day of MAY A. D., 1964

D. BARLOW BURKE

Prothonotary

By James P. Port

Thomas

Smith

2nd

St. L.

or

with, but not at

John & James

MAY 10 1836

C. Henderson

W. H. (Horn)
photog.

James V. Webster } Lot 2, p. 4
no. } Collected 2 1886.

John C. Chapman }
particulars of the }
H. and H. Co. }
p. 4

John C. Chapman }
particulars of the }
H. and H. Co. }
p. 4

John C. Chapman }
particulars of the }
H. and H. Co. }
p. 4

John C. Chapman }
particulars of the }
H. and H. Co. }
p. 4

Whitman Numismatic Journal

1220 MOUND AVENUE • RACINE, WISCONSIN 53404



R. S. YEOMAN
Editor-in-Chief
K. E. BRESSETT
Managing Editor
NEIL SHAPER
Associate Editor
ED METZGER
Advertising Manager

Vol. 17, 1986

Mr. Eric P. Newman
3450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis 5, Missouri

Dear Eric:

Just a note to thank you once again for the perfectly marvelous day at your home. As usual, I was simply delighted with your unique hospitality and enjoyed every moment of my stay.

Under separate cover I have mailed the copy of Dye's Coin Book as promised and my book on early counterfeiting methods. Since the latter book was a gift to me, I would appreciate your returning it when you are finished. However, if it is vitally important to you I would be happy to pass it on to your fine reference collection.

Our Purchasing Agent is investigating the costs of having plastic holders made to your specifications. You will probably hear directly from the manufacturer, and can make your own arrangements and decision about the practicality of having him do your work.

I suddenly remembered where you can buy a quantity of the oblong Japanese coins for your counting board. These coins are called isshu gin and can be ordered by the roll through the following company: Bobco, Box 61, Otis, Indiana.

I will write to you again soon after I get information on the cast copy of the '04 dollar and other things that we discussed.

Many thanks again for all of the nice coins and paper money that you gave me. These make a nice addition to my meager collection.

Sincerely,

Ken Bressett
Managing Editor
WHITMAN NUMISMATIC JOURNAL

EMD:ca

May 26, 1964

Mr. Kenneth Bressett
Whitman Publishing Company
1220 Mound Avenue
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Ken:

Thank you, very much, for exchanging the Dye's Coin Book as that gives me a pretty copy instead of a reading copy.

I am returning, under separate cover, your Early Book on Counterfeiting, which was fascinating, but, since it relates to European items, it does not belong in my collection.

You were very nice to investigate the plastic envelope matter and tell me about the fact that rolls of Japanese coins can be obtained from the man in Indiana.

I have finished the New York section, just for practice, and look forward to hearing from you as soon as you have had a chance to talk to your associates.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

May 28, 1964

Mr. Kenneth Bressett
Whitman Publishing Company
1220 Mound Avenue
Madison, Wisconsin

Dear Ken:

In "Updating the Fantastic 1804 Dollar", I note that I did not indicate that page 14 should be inserted at the end of the section on page 15. Would you please indicate that on the copy you have.

I am also enclosing a new section to be inserted at an appropriate place.

I would, naturally, like to check the proof of this material when it is available so as to make a correction or two before issuance.

Your contribution to this organization in connection with this work is appreciated.

Cordially,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN/atb

Certified from the record this 14TH
day of MAY A. D., 1964

D. BARLOW BURKE

Prothonotary

By Jessie P. R. Core

May 28, 1964

Mr. Kenneth Bressett
Whitman Publishing Company
1220 Wound Avenue
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Ken:

In "Updating the Fantastic 1804 Dollar", I note that I did not indicate that page 14 should be inserted at the end of the section on page 15. Would you please indicate that on the copy you have.

I am also enclosing a new section to be inserted at an appropriate place.

I would, naturally, like to check the proof of this material when it is available so as to make a correction or two before issuance.

Your contribution to this organization in connection with this work is appreciated.

Cordially,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN/att

June 15, 1964

Mr. Kenneth Bressett
Whitman Publishing Company
1220 Mound Avenue
Racine, Wisconsin 53404

Re: "Updating the 1864"

Dear Ken,

In your letter of June 3 you asked me to clear up my instructions about pages 14 and 15.

Page 14 goes into the space before the title on page 15.

I think an additional picture of the counting board in Evans would be interesting to include. If you think so, take a picture of Evans and insert it.

If there is going to be any proof for me to read, please get it to me as fast as you can as I will be vacationing at the end of the month.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/eto

P.S. Thank you for the Japanese information.

June 29, 1964

Dear Ken:

Please thank Dick and yourself for the new Red Book which indicates considerable effort to add and correct the old edition. Pretty soon you will have improved it so much that there will be nothing much to add for the Standard Catalogue (if that ever happens)

The galley proofs of the UPDATING are enclosed and because I am such flyspecker I have made the changes expected of me. At least one correction gave the changes where "liter" instead of "liver" was used concerning Laugh Favata alteration.

I presume that you will put captions under the illustrations.

When this is published I would like to have 35 copies of the monthly or if it is divided into two portions than 35 copies of each.

I will see all of you at the Cleveland convention but of course will have communicated with you often before then/

Thank you for having been so cooperative with respect to this UPDATING and I hope there is enough general interest in the article to satisfy your public.

Kindest personal regards ,

Eric P. Newman

NO. _____

NAME W. F. Johnson

ADDRESS _____

REMARKS:

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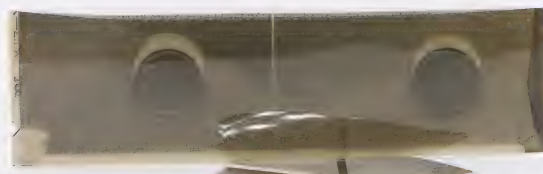
45













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PROTHONOTARY

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RECEIPT

C.P. 4

TERM, 1986

NO. 468

att DF

" Practice

" Plea

" Summons

" Rule

9 50

Newman

CLERK

TOTAL

9 50









cases; plus a sharp U. with save or you must; plus a snowcopy 0. as relevant Job graph, I will appreciate it. I will send you the article for inspection before I submit it to the Numismatist.

Really, Jud. is so goofy. He says that Patterson died in 1851, ending the Patterson-Longacre feud. Actually, Patterson only retired in that year -- and not even from the Mint, but only as Director because the protests of Philadelphians over his administration. He claimed he was retiring for reasons of health, but immediately installed himself as Chief Clerk under Director Eckert and continued his malignant designs. At other times, Patterson served as Acting Director and Acting Assayer; ~~xxxxxx~~ He resigned from the Mint when Snowden came in, but in 1869 was still trying to get Longacre fired! The Expenses of the Continental Congress under the Board of Treasury are vague and do not tell us what we want to know. There is no mention of Gallatin, of dies, of a Mint or anything else, but there are many sumptuous items, no vouchers now exist however these

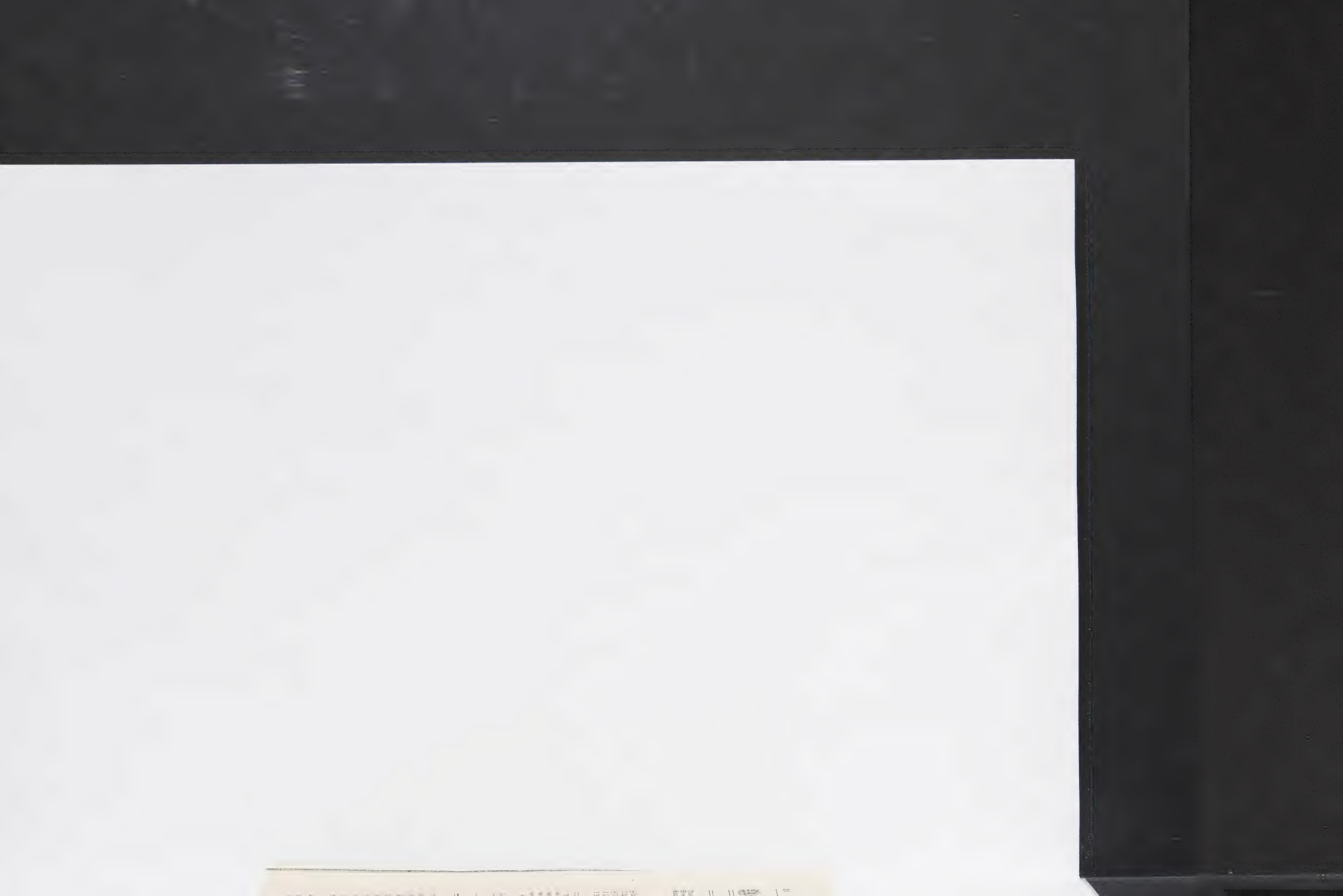
to all our subscribers by simply giving the best possible journal,—not for the money,—but the best our efforts can produce, regardless of our low subscription price. As previously mentioned, we will gladly send without charge extra copies of the Monthly to all subscribers wishing to distribute them among their friends, or will send sample copies of the Monthly direct from this office to names furnished us. You know we will greatly appreciate the favors, and we know that your friends will be equally thankful.

We learn from a clipping sent us by Mr. C. A. White that an 1884 Trade Dollar recently sold for \$284. The coin, however, can hardly be classed as a regular issue, since its issue was not, we believe, authorized, and the existence of this coin was not known until the collection of the late R. K. Idler of Philadelphia was sold. This collection, it is said, contained five specimens of this coin. No others are known.

It is indeed gratifying to know that one's efforts are appreciated. It is not the applaud nor praise that gratifies so much, but the fact that the efforts have been successful. At the outset, when the first number of the MONTHLY appeared, our efforts were set to make it a truly representative Numismatist's Journal. How well we have succeeded can be easily noted from the nu-

Jan 1909
Philadelphia Num Monthly
Vol 2 No 1
p 6

"Ne
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Feb 1887
Vol 1 No 5

— THE —
American Numismatist

EDITED BY C. E. LEAL.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE.

United States,	- - - - -	50 cents
Foreign Countries,	- - - - -	60 cents
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$\frac{1}{2}$ Column 4 inches,	3.00	7.50	12.00
1 Column,	5.50	14.00	22.50
1 Page,	10.00	25.00	40.00

Not more than 60 words printed in an inch advertisement.

TERMS—Cash in advance. All advertisements, exchange notices, etc., intended for publication in our next number must reach us before the 25th of this month. Subscribers will confer a great favor by remitting by postal note, money order or registered letter, instead of postage stamps.

Address all communications to

CHARLES E. LEAL & CO.,

149 Ellison Street,

Paterson, N. J.

Entered as Second-Class matter at the Paterson Post Office.

FEBRUARY, 1887:

Our readers will no doubt notice one or two alterations in this issue, which we hope are for the better. In the first place we have changed our printer, and hereafter THE AMERICAN NUMISMATIST will be printed in this city instead of at a distance. This we hope will enable us to appear promptly on the first of each month instead of in the latter part as heretofore. We have experienced considerable delay and inconvenience in making this change, hence our lateness.

We have also changed our cover, and should like to know whether it is an improvement or not. It is much more durable, and we think shows to better advantage.

—♦♦♦—
We refer all who have written us in regard

of the cabinets mentioned by him can be made for a small sum, and will no doubt answer exceedingly well for a collection of moderate dimensions; they would perhaps not be exactly suitable for a large collection, but any person who has spent the time and money necessary to obtain a large collection of coins does not as a rule require any advice on the subject of their arrangement.

—♦♦♦—
Mr. E. R. Marshall of Wyoming, Iowa, whose advertisement appeared in our last issue, desires us to state that his Directory, the "Peerless," will be issued sometime in March instead of in February. He intends to eclipse all previous efforts in that line, and will give a free copy to each collector whose name is inserted.

—♦♦♦—
THAT 1804 DOLLAR.

The case of Dexter *versus* Chapman Bros., which was to have been tried on February 14th, at Philadelphia, has been postponed. This trial is of more than ordinary interest to Numismatists as it is to determine whether the 1804 Dollar offered and guaranteed as authentic at one of Chapman's sales, a year or more ago, was a genuine issue of that date, or not. It is maintained by all experts that *no Dollars dated 1804 were struck in that year*; but it is an established fact that they have been struck on several occasions since 1827, from differently engraved dies.

—♦♦♦—
Mr. William J. Stillman contributes a most interesting article to the March number of the *Century*, entitled "The Coins of the Greeks." It is beautifully illustrated with seventy-five fac-similes of the genuine pieces in the collections of the British Museum. Alexander Balmano, Gaston L. Feuardent, and several other gentlemen. The same magazine also contains quite a lengthy editorial in which the coinages of the ancient

The Edge Lettering Device

Since the ~~Castany machine~~ ^{heavy duty} ~~device for lettering~~ ^{device for lettering} ~~panels~~ ^{panels} the edges of ~~panels~~ ^{panels} is so important to the study of the 1804 dollar; ^(p. 28) further clarification of ~~the~~ eighteenth century explanation of its use ~~is~~ ^{is} both corroborative and clarifying. The first ~~encyclopedia~~ ^{encyclopedia} published in ~~Philadelphia~~ ^{Philadelphia} America was ~~and~~ ^{and} primarily a reprint of the ^{3rd edition 6th} ~~Encyclopaedia Britannica~~. The American ~~publication~~ ^{publication} was printed in Philadelphia ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ parts, beginning in 1770 and ~~being completed by~~ ^{being completed by} 1778 which latter date it bears. The article on ~~Coinage~~ ^{Coinage} ~~was~~ ^{was} ~~one of the earliest~~ ^{one of the earliest} ~~before the~~ ^{before the} ~~U.S. Mint was established.~~ ^{U.S. Mint was established.} ~~The~~ ^{The} ~~relation to the~~ ^{relation to the} ~~Castany machine~~ ^{Castany machine} (Vol. 8, p. 130) reads as follows:

Copy

A crude illustration of the ~~Castany machine~~ ^{in panel} ~~is found~~ ^{is found} in Plate 144 ^{Volume 5} ~~of the~~ ^{of the} ~~following~~ ^{following} ~~pages~~ ^{page 214}.

1834	Half Dollar	208 $\frac{3}{4}$ gr ✓
1834	Quarter	103 $\frac{1}{4}$ gr ✓
1834	Dime	42 $\frac{3}{4}$ gr. ✓
1834	Cent	159 $\frac{1}{2}$ gr. ✓
1834	$\frac{1}{2}$ cent	84 gr.
1834	$\frac{1}{2}$ eagle	128 $\frac{3}{4}$ gr. ✓
1834	$\frac{1}{4}$ eagle	64 $\frac{3}{4}$
1807	eagle	270 $\frac{1}{2}$
1804	dollar	415 $\frac{1}{2}$ ✓

THE Scholarship

Swans # ~~456~~ 480
33680

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Encyclopaedia or a Dictionary of Arts
Sciences and Miscellaneous Literature
Phila 1798 (Actually 1790-98)

COINAGE

Vol 5 p. 130

this vol
Actually printed 1792

Plate CXLIV	Fig 1	Containing
pp p.	Fig 2	Screw Press
284	Fig 3	Axis

these dies are English on the
head of George III + Rev of Eng coin
Shows on the dies

The principal parts of the machine (Fig 1) to strike coins
on the edge, are two steel laminæ, about a line thick. One
half of the legend, or of the ring, is engraved upon the thickness of
one of the laminæ, and the other half on the thickness of the other;
and these two laminæ are straight, although the punchet
marked with them be circular.

When they stamp a planchet, they must put it between the
laminæ in such a manner, so that there being each 1) then
laid flat upon a copper plate, which is fastened upon a very
thick wooden table, and the planchet being likewise laid upon
the same plate, the edge of the planchet may touch the two laminæ
on each side, and in their thick part

(over)

On NY look up

Phil Arch & Num Soc No of Vols

A. N. Vol 24 What does it have

V. Guilletaux #2796

Monnaie, 272 Annee de Numismatique Française
Française

1670-1942
1830

Essai d'illustration

* 2796 MODULE 25 CENT ^{As} ₄₅ préc Rx préc
Module 15 (d'essai) bronze
livre
prix 10.0 Jan 1943

Mon

Apres Module 1/2 fr { Gov Module de la Piece de 1/2 France
Rm Eprouve des Pieces d'or
1 fr " " 1 Franc
1/2 fr " " 1/2 Franc
2-3 cent " " 2-3 cent

I'M MY CUZ-IN-LAW
as it might be sung by Linda or Peter

(Tune: "I'm My Own Grandpa")

Just about four years ago - when Hope was twenty-two
She was married to her Julian - who had travelled East to woo.
Hope had a cousin Peter - who was a Harvard square
And Julian had a peppy niece - kept under Bryn Mawr's care.

I'm my Cuz-in-law
I'm my Cuz-in-law
It sounds funny I know
But it really is so
Oh I'm my Cuz-in-law

We both were at Hope's wedding - but considered not each other.
We acted just as coolly as - a sister and a brother,
But in due course we met again - and then the fun began -
Incest couldn't stop the love - of Newman-Solomon.

I'm my Cuz-in-law
I'm my Cuz-in-law
It sounds funny I know
But it really is so
Oh I'm my Cuz-in-law

We both have Uncle Irvings and Auntie Esthers, too
We find there are three Sidneys - two Janes we have for you.
And Who is Charlie Edison? - he is three different men,
They're all our second cousins - though we know not how or when.

I'm my Cuz-in-law
I'm my Cuz-in-law
It sounds funny I know
But it really is so
Oh I'm my Cuz-in-law

We just have given wedding vows - at Westwood Country Club
And all of those who witnessed it - can see that there's a rub
There are so many relatives - the family tree's so fat,
There still is some confusion - as to whom we were begat.

I'm my Cuz-in-law
I'm my Cuz-in-law
It sounds funny I know
But it really is so
Oh I'm my Cuz-in-law

So Stop and Shop at Baker's - across from A & S
And send your kids to Brandeis - and avoid a family mess
But when your offspring marry - be sure their choice is free
And pluck some little cherub - from another family tree.

I'm my Cuz-in-law
I'm my Cuz-in-law
It sounds funny I know
But it really is so
Oh I'm my Cuz-in-law

October 20, 1963

En NY look up

~~Phila Arch & Num Soc No of Vols~~

~~A. J. R. Vol 27 What does it have~~

V. Guilleminaux # 2796

Monnaie, 272 Avenue de l'Armistice ¹⁸⁷⁰⁻¹⁹⁴² Français

1830

Essai d'inscriptions

* 2796

MODULE 15 CENT

$\frac{1}{4}$ pièce

Rx pin

Module 15
(certain)

bronzé

base

pin 100

Jan 1943

Monsieur

Monsieur

1/2

{ 100 Module de la Piece de 2 Francs
1/2 Epave des Monnaies Napoléon

1/2

11

5

15

Illustrated

1/2

10 cent

10 cent

I'M MY CUZ-IN-LAW
as it might be sung by Linda or Peter

(Tune: "I'm My Own Grandpa")

Just about four years ago - when Hope was twenty-two
She was married to her Julian - who had travelled East to woo.
Hope had a cousin Peter - who was a Harvard square
And Julian had a peppy niece - kept under Bryn Mawr's care.

I'm my Cuz-in-law
I'm my Cuz-in-law
It sounds funny I know
But it really is so
Oh I'm my Cuz-in-law

We both were at Hope's wedding - but considered not each other.
We acted just as coolly as - a sister and a brother,
But in due course we met again - and then the fun began -
Incest couldn't stop the love - of Newman-Solomon.

I'm my Cuz-in-law
I'm my Cuz-in-law
It sounds funny I know
But it really is so
Oh I'm my Cuz-in-law

We both have Uncle Irvings and Auntie Esthers, too
We find there are three Sidneys - two Janes we have for you.
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They're all our second cousins - though we know not how or when.

I'm my Cuz-in-law
I'm my Cuz-in-law
It sounds funny I know
But it really is so
Oh I'm my Cuz-in-law

We just have given wedding vows - at Westwood Country Club
of those who witnessed it - can see that there's a rub
in relatives - the family feels so fat

May 1964 Forest

Essai de la Puce Montane de Homelin
1833
Insecte

Phyllaga L. Les des F. m. m.
Insecte de color. fr. m. m. m.
Les 5 fr. m. m.

STOCKHOLDERS' BALLOT

EDISON BROTHERS STORES, INC.

MEETING OF COMMON STOCKHOLDERS ON APRIL 27, 1964

Election of Directors

NOMINEES FOR DIRECTORS

[Twelve to be elected]

NUMBER OF SHARES VOTED*

In Person or by Proxy

Harry Edison

Irving Edison

Simon Edison

Samuel B. Edison

George Frankenthaler

Roy V. Oscarson

Irving Halle

Alfred T. Leimbach

Charles B. Edison

Bernard A. Edison

Samuel L. Demoff

Morris Natelson

Signature of owner of record or
of proxy holder

*Unless otherwise designated all shares shall be construed to have been voted in favor of each of the above-named nominees.

Let me know if you need more
of the same or different things.
As always, I am happy to help.
I will be in the office on
Monday and Tuesday next week.
Thank you for your order.

Wt 333 Sp 21. 10.4



M

To **ST. LOUIS STAMP & COIN CO.** Dr.

B. G. JOHNSON, Prop.

408 OLIVE STREET

These Goods Are Sent on Consignment and Approval and the Title in the Consignor Does Not Pass Until They Are Paid For.

APC 4409

François Moyseville
Le facès de Jean Gaston ingénieur
mécanique de la machine à vapeur de
Monsieur de la Roche, 1756-02
Nogent-sur-Seine, France 1811 (1807)
p. 165-166

Teasing the Public

In 1885 George G. Evans, in preparing his Illustrated History of the United States Mint created an amusing teaser by virtue of the raging controversy about the 1804 dollar. In explaining United States Mint procedures, the use of the counting board as an efficient method in counting coin, was described and pictured. His illustration showed a counting board filled with 60 coins. One might assume that the coins which he selected in 1885 to use in such a picture would be contemporary mintage but, strangely enough, he used all 1804 dollars. At a time when Morgan dollars were current and the Seated Liberty design was discontinued, the use of the old bust type was a surprise. It could not have been inadvertent. Since counting boards were not adopted by the United States Mint until long after 1804, this makes the illustration even more incongruous. The conclusion is inescapable that Evans was poking a little fun at the 1804 dollar by illustrating a large mass of them on the counting board. He was laughing at the intense excitement about 1804 dollars which was manifest in numismatic circles in 1885.

The 1804 dollars which he illustrated even have a border at their circumference, rather than dentilation, thus having the same tell-tale discrepancy as the 1804 dollar dies. This provocative illustration is found on page 40 of every subsequent edition of the Evans book and shows that a sense of humor always has a place.

UPDATING THE FANTASTIC 1804 DOLLAR

by Eric P. Newman

Whenever a book is written, particularly when on a controversial subject, readers have the opportunity to make their comments in reviews, letters, books, articles, and by discussion. With respect to "The Fantastic 1804 Dollar" there *Challenges, confirmations and inquiries come from many sources,* was no dearth of such commentary. The authors likewise continued their research. Readers are therefore entitled to have a *facts set out in the* summary of all such matters to amplify and clarify the *book.* To coordinate these items, references are given to the specific pages where related matter is found in the *book published Text.*

The Siam 1804 Dollar

The revelation in 1962 of the 1804 Siam dollar in its presentation set (p.66) will rank as one of the great surprises in American numismatics and its publication deservedly received the Heath Literary Award. (David B. Spink and James C. Risk, "New Facts about an Old American Coin", The Numismatist, Vol. 75, No. 11, Nov. 1962, p. 1443; The Numismatic Review, Vol. III, No. 5, 1962, p. 217).

In the summer of 1962, in England, David Spink arranged for the writer to have the opportunity to examine the Siam specimen of the 1804 Dollar along with ~~the other~~ the other and the case which contained them. presentation coins. (The Numismatist, December, 1962, p. 1610; Coin World, December 14, 1962, p. 42). It was noted that the 1804 dollar Siam/~~xxxxxxx~~ was so clear that it showed that the reverse die

The Law Suit

It is a "great rarity" when legal proceedings are filed in court to determine whether a coin is genuine, but the 1804 dollar is honored with this unusual distinction. James V. Dexter, who purchased his Class I1804 dollar in the Chapman sale of May 14, 1885 (p.124) filed suit on June 19, 1886 in the Court of Common Pleas No. 4 of Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania (March Term, 1886, No. 468) against S. Hudson Chapman and Henry Chapman, Jr., copartners trading as S. H. and H. Chapman, Jr. Dexter's attorney was Thomas DeWitt Cuyler. The complaint read as follows:

~~James~~ Whereas, heretofore, to wit: on the nineteenth day of May, 1887

at the County aforesaid, in consideration that the said Plaintiff, at the special instance and request of the said Defendants, would buy of the said Defendants, a certain Silver Dollar of the Year 1804, at and for a certain price or sum of money, to wit: the sum of One thousand dollars, to be therefore paid by the said Plaintiff, they the said Defendants, undertook and then and there faithfully promised the said Plaintiff, that the said Silver Dollar of the year 1804 then was a true and genuine Silver Dollar of the Year 1804, coined during that year. And he the said Plaintiff avers, that he, confiding in the said promise and undertaking of the said Defendants, did, nevertheless, to wit: on the day and year last aforesaid, to wit: at the County aforesaid, purchase the said Silver Dollar so represented as aforesaid, of the said Defendants, and then and there paid them for the same the said sum of money,

to wit: the sum of One thousand dollars; nevertheless, the said Defendants, contriving and intending to deceive and defraud the said Plaintiff in this behalf, did not perform or regard their said promise and undertaking so by them made as aforesaid, but thereby craftily and subtly deceived and defrauded the said Plaintiff

in this, to wit: that the said Silver Dollar of the year 1804, was not a true and genuine Silver Dollar of the year 1804, coined during said year, but on the contrary thereof, was a re-strike, coined at a later and subsequent date, and a Silver Dollar of no use or value whatever to the said Plaintiff, whereby the said Plaintiff hath lost and been deprived of the use and benefit of the said Silver Dollar and of the sum of money paid for the same; and the said Plaintiff hath sustained great trouble, expence and loss, to wit: the sum of Five thousand dollars, to wit at the County aforesaid, and therefore he brings suit.

The Chapmans had first planted this coin in a German sale in 1884 to make it appear to have been found in Europe and bought it in from themselves (p.92). To add to the devilment it is clear from the foregoing text that in 1885/^{when}the 1804 dollar was allegedly auctioned by the Chapmans it was sold at an arranged price rather than pursuant to bona fide bidding. When one adds to these connivances the written Chapman statement, "We guarantee it genuine," it becomes evident that the Chapmans were properly accused in the complaint of crafty and subtle intent to deceive and defraud.

The existence of this law suit was found recently by serendipity in the course of a casual reading of an issue of an obscure short-lived magazine, Charles E. Leal's The American Numismatist for February, 1887 (Patterson, N. J. Vol. I, No. 5). In a squib entitled "That 1804 Dollar" the editor stated:

"The case of Dexter versus Chapman Bros., which was to have been tried on February 14th, at Philadelphia, has been postponed. The trial is of more than ordinary interest to numismatists as it is to determine whether the 1804 Dollar offered and guaranteed as authentic at one of Chapmans' sales, a year or more ago, was a genuine issue of that date, or not. It is maintained by all experts that no Dollars dated 1804 were struck in that year; but it is an established fact that they have been struck on several occasions since 1827 from differently engraved dies."

The case was never brought to trial, but was settled out of court with Dexter retaining his Class I 1804 dollar. If Dexter's right to interrogate Mint officials and the Chapman Brothers had been insisted upon perhaps his law suit would have been notorious instead of remaining unknown.

break extended further than was noticeable on other Class I pieces (p.42),/ ^{the} ~~The~~ break across the top of NITED continuing across the top of the wing tip and under the first S in STATES.

The break was in the course of ~~xxxxxx~~/certainly caused/~~by~~ hardening of the die by immersion in liquid by use. rather than/~~in the xxxxxxxx of the xxxxxxxx~~ All other characteristics of the Siam Dollar conformed with those of other Class I pieces. The weak and crushed edge lettering reads up-right when the obverse is upright.

All coins found in the Siam Presentation Set have brilliant proof surfaces. They weigh as follows:

1834 Half Cent	8 1/2 grains	"
1834 Cent	159-1/2	"
1834 Dime	42-3/4	"
1834 Quarter	103-1/4	"
1834 Half Dollar	208-3/4	"
1804 Dollar	414-1/2	"
1834 Quarter Eagle	14-3/4	"
1834 Half Eagle	128-3/4	"
1804 Eagle	270-1/2	"

The half dollar has a normal milled edge and its border dentilation extends to the edge on each face. It is from different dies than the proof 1834 half dollar with crushed edge lettering. (p.59).

The Siam Coffin

The Presentation Case holding the coins for the King of Siam was an attractive piece of morocco leather workmanship embossed with an American eagle and other insignia. The original yellow color has darkened where exposed to a dull golden brown

It is color. /~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ 6-1/8 inches long, 4-5/16 inches deep, and 1-1/16 inches high, ~~xxxxxx~~ has a seven pointed gold

Beneath thumb piece for opening. /~~xxxxx~~ the leather, the body of the

*

Presentation Case is wood which is lined on the inside with dark blue velvet so that the original official reference to the case as a "coffin" was gruesomely accurate. (See illustration of the top).

Authorization Problems

As to whether anyone had specifically intended a silver dollar or an eagle, or both, to be included in the set of coins to be presented to the King of Siam and the Imaum of Muscat, it was important to check on the authorization for the language of the letter dated November 11, 1834 from the Secretary of State to the Director of the Mint (p.63) where it was said that "The President has directed that a complete set of the coins of the United States be sent to the King of Siam and another to the Sultan of Muscat."

An examination of the papers of Andrew Jackson, in the Library of Congress and in the Archives of the United States, disclosed no written directive, instruction, or comment relative to the gift of coins. The communication from the President to the Secretary of State, therefore, must have been oral.

The question as to whether Mint officials were authorized, in 1834, to prepare new dies for an ~~1834~~ ^{antedated} dollar/~~and for~~ ^{or an antedated} ~~any date~~ and validity ~~1834~~ eagle/depends upon the meaning/of the words "complete set" and "specimens of each kind now in use". It was shown in the discussion of this matter (p.64) that silver dollars and eagles were not actually in use in November, 1834. ~~Assuming~~ ^{Assuming} ~~the directive was interpreted to~~ ^{properly have} ~~requirement~~ a dollar and an eagle ~~xxxx~~ included in the set, this/could have been satisfied (1) by including an existing dollar and an existing eagle of any date in choice condition, and (2) by making new dies for both a dollar and an eagle, dating them 1834, and striking coins from them of proper weight and fineness.

The opportunity to study the Siam presentation set served to prove that the proof 1804 eagle was made for the set and weighed 270 $\frac{1}{2}$. ~~It is therefore made in violation of the~~ ^{required an} The Act of June 28, 1834, (effective July 31, 1834) ~~requiring~~ eagle to weigh only 258 grains. The proof 1804 Eagle, even though minted during November or December, 1834, was sized according to the repealed standard of the Act of April 2, 1792 which had provided that an eagle weigh 270 grains. The proof 1804 Eagle, therefore, violated the Act of June 28, 1834. The

legal standard for the weight of the silver dollar had not been changed between 1804 and 1834.

Neither the President, the Secretary of State, Director of the Mint, or any other person in the public service had the authorize or undertake any violation of power to/~~xxxxxx~~ any Act of Congress relating to coinage. It would therefore appear that the Mint officials exceeded their authority and violated the law (a) in placing other than the current date on coinage when, in 1834, they minted a proof 1804 Dollar and a proof 1804 Eagle, and (b) in using other than the proper legal weight in making the proof 1804 Eagle. They had

devilment in their hearts when they did it. The fact that they also made obverse dies for an 1802, and 1803 dollar before they made dies for an 1801 and 1804 dollar (p.56) indicates that they had intentions other than just filling Presentation Sets.

The Proof 1804 Eagle

The proof 1804 Eagle has identical edge milling to the half eagle, quarter eagle, quarter, and dime in the Presentation set indicating that the same edging dies were used in the Castaing machine for all of them. The proof 1804 Eagle was not struck in a collar die as evidenced by the fact that the

Demand for Silver Dollars

The discontinuance of dollar coinage by the U. S. Mint in 1804 was necessitated by the export of silver dollars by mercantile interests (p.21). Smaller silver coins although containing equivalent intrinsic silver value per dollar were not subject to the same economic pressure. The ~~demand for~~ ^{pressure to export} silver dollars continued for several years (p.22) and naturally related to full weight Spanish silver dollars as the availability of U. S. dollars was minimal. The three following advertisements in the New-York Evening Post for February 7, 1807 show the economic trend:

Spanish Dollars. - The highest premium given for Spanish Dollars, by Nathaniel Prime, 42 Wall Street.

Dollars Wanted. - The highest premium given for Spanish Dollars, by Lebleus Loomis, 45 Wm. Street.

Spanish Dollars. - The highest premium given for Spanish Dollars, at No. 37, Wall-street, opposite the Branch Bank by William Leffingwell.

The Thonnelier Coining Press

When Franklin Peale in May, 1833 was sent to Europe for two years by the U.S.Mint to study new production methods (p.30) he visited the Palais de Monnaie, the Paris Mint. Since the invention of the toggle press by Nicolas Thonnelier was not publicly announced until 1834 (p.31) one might wonder whether there was time for any of its features to be applied to equipment used in coining the Class I 1804 dollars in 1834. The use of the collar die was one of the requirements of the Thonnelier toggle press and would have been one of the elements experimented with for use at the U.S.Mint. Since Class I 1804 dollars were struck in a smooth collar die in 1834 it is important to know if the collar die mechanism used at the U.S.Mint could have been developed with the help of the reports which Peale forwarded from Europe.

In the listing by V. Guilletaux in Monnaies Francaises 1670-1942 the pattern coinage of France for 1830-31 includes 25 centimes, 50 centimes, 1 franc and 2 francs. A typical obverse reads "Module de la Piece de 25 centimes" (Diameter of a 25 centimes piece), and the reverse states "Epreuves des Presses Thonnelier" (Trials of the Thonnelier presses). These ^{undated} trials have a smooth edge formed by a collar die and a raised flat border around the centime. ~~These trials are dated 1833 with~~ A copper trial piece dated 1833 with Louis Phillippe I on the obverse, and "Essai de La Presse Monetaire de Thonnelier Ingenieur 1833" on the reverse is further corroboration of the development date. All these trials ^(See illustrations) constitute evidence that Thonnelier's invention was in an advanced state of perfection well before Peale's visit and that the American adaptation of some of its features could well have been under test by 1834, even though the minting of regular issues by a toggle press and in a collar die did not take place until 1836.

1858 Mint Regulations

If there is any doubt that it was improper, in 1858, to strike 1804 dollars, or any other coin to be sold at a premium (p.75), the regulations issued by the Mint before the discovery of the Class II 1804 dollars are revealing. Pertinent portions of INSTRUCTIONS RELATIVE TO THE TRANSACTION OF BUSINESS AT THE MINT OF THE UNITED STATES AND ITS BRANCHES, published in 1858, by James Ross Snowden, Director of the Mint, are as follows:

* 8. No profit can accrue to any officer, clerk, or workman of these institutions, by reasons of the legitimate operations thereof, and no private or extra official work can be done therein, with or without compensation or reward, by any such officer, clerk, or workman. If this rule be violated by any officer or clerk, the fact shall be reported to the Treasury Department. If violated by any workman, he will be forthwith dismissed.

16. The principal officer of each department of business will report to the Director (or Superintendent) any instance of neglect of duty, or want of fidelity, in any of the persons employed in his department, and also make a like report if he has reason to suspect the integrity of any person so employed.

In spite of the exposure of the scandal of 1858 relating to the ~~restoring and sale of~~ 1804 dollars, and the ~~requirements~~ of the regulations, there is no official report of the matter to be found and no dismissal of personnel resulted.

dentils on the right side of the obverse are larger than the dentils on the left, which would not occur in a piece struck in a collar die because centering would be perfect. There is no wire edge on the coin and the ^{assertion (p.57)} ~~statement on page 57 of the book~~ that the eagle was collar struck and had a wire edge can now be corrected.

The proof 1804 Eagle is also distinctive in that the ^{its} ~~the~~ second highest star on ~~the~~ left side of the proof 1804 Eagle in the Siam set has a double cut point at 4 o'clock as do the other specimens struck from these antedated dies.

The DuBois Letter

The letter of William E. DuBois dated September 17, 1878 (p.96) giving an opinion on the Davis 1804 Class III dollar was illustrated and featured in the descriptive material in the sale of the Samuel W. Wolfson collection, held May 3-4, 1963, just as it was in the prior sales of the Davis 1804 dollar on April 8, 1954 and December 10, 1960. A further analysis seems appropriate as to ^{whether} ~~how~~ William E. DuBois made ^{an innocent + deliberate} ~~the~~ error of ⁱⁿ diagnosing the Davis dollar as "one of the original issue - and not a 'restrike' from Mint dies."

The letter clearly shows that DuBois knew that there were two "specimens" of the 1804 dollar in the Mint Cabinet, one being a restrike (Class II) and the other being what DuBois termed an "original" (Class I). He ^{could have been} ~~was~~ apparently unaware

that the reverse of the Davis dollar was from the same reverse die as the reverse of the Class II or restrike 1804 dollar in the Mint Cabinet and differed from the reverse die of the Class I piece. This die distinction ^{was not here} ~~supposedly~~ had not been noticed

by 1878 when he wrote the letter, ^{although there was reason to conceal the fact.} ~~Haseltine~~ ^{did not even} ~~note this fact in 1881~~ ^{When Haseltine published} in his classification of dollar die varieties (p.91) ^{he indicated that the reverse die was not a restrike die.} ~~It is possible that DuBois~~ ^{could have} based his opinion

as to the Davis piece on the fact that the Davis piece had a lettered edge just as the Class I Mint specimen did, whereas the Class II Mint specimen did not have a lettered edge. This does not excuse DuBois from being deliberately deceptive in the use of the words "original issue" even if he was ^{probably} in error in the conclusion he drew from the comparison of the Davis Dollar with the two Mint Cabinet specimens. He must have known the whole story of the origin of the 1804 dollars and should ^{have} attempted

to use ^{so much} ~~less~~ whitewash in his letter. The facts still ~~stand~~ ^{stand}.

Barnum was Right

The Watters Class I 1804 Dollar which was originally given to the Imaum of Muscat (pp.67,126) was the topic of a conversation, in England, in 1962, between Fred Baldwin and

the writer. Baldwin explained that Watters bought the 1804 Dollar for six shillings from Maurice Eschwege, a money changer, pawn broker, and coin dealer at 47 Lime Street, Liverpool. Most English ships docked at Liverpool in the 19th Century and some sailor or voyageur probably sold the coin for silver value at Eschwege's exchange. Phineas T. Barnum, the great American showman, tried relentlessly to buy the coin from Watters for a spectacular exhibit in America, but Watters explained that the dollar would not be sold for any price since it was bought for practically nothing. Baldwin knew Watters well and had seen the 1804 dollar in his possession almost 60 years before.

Seizure Fears

In the 1884-5 period Edouard Frossard urged the prominent Philadelphia coin dealers to publish the whole truth about the restrikes of the 1804 dollars (p.91). John W. Haseltine and the Chapman Brothers were thus challenged but, nevertheless, remained silent. Twenty-three years later, at the 1908 American Numismatic Association Convention, Haseltine gave the explanation as to why he did not respond. He explained (The Numismatist, Vol. 21, No. 10, Oct. 1907, p.325): "Mr. Idler was my father-

in-law and he was very reticent about his collection. He would seldom show his coins even for sale. This was partially caused by the fear that any pattern or experimental coins he possessed might be seized. Hence the many remarkable pieces that have been found in his collection."

The fear of seizure could only exist because of Idler's knowledge of the improper activities of the Mint employees. He was the sales outlet for the Mint officials. Three 1804 dollars appeared first in Idler's hands (p.107). Thus, Idler's and Haseltine's real reason for failure to disclose the existence of the Idler 1804 Class III dollar until 1908 is clear and the other allegation of Haseltine that it was concealed because it was used for making restrikes was a lame excuse (p. 107). It was possible seizure by the Federal Government, which caused him to conceal the coins which he knew had a highly questionable origin and status.

Taken For a Ride

In the discussion of the acquisition by Stickney of his 1804 Class I dollar from the United States Mint it was indicated that he took a horse drawn stage coach from New York to Phila-

*

delphia to make the exchange (p.73). Harold S. Bareford, owner of the Dexter 1804 Class I dollar, in a talk before the Metropolitan New York Coin Convention held May 2-5, 1963, properly pointed out that railroad service was available to Stickney. (Numismatic News, May 27, 1963, p. 50). Because the authors were not well enough "trained" in travel history, readers of The Fantastic 1804 Dollar may have been "taken for a ride" in this minor respect. This correction, however, cannot "railroad" readers into modifying their understanding that Stickney acted with reckless speed in parting with a unique Immune Columbia gold piece contrary to his statement that he did not part with any coins which were not duplicates, and that he tried to justify his action as honorable by stating ~~that~~ ^{that} in 1843/an 1804 dollar was not considered any more valuable than a dollar of any other date, etc. (p.72).

Shunned

no attention was paid to
It is interesting to note that The Fantastic 1804 Dollar
~~has been ignored~~ ^{a subsequent} in the sale catalogue description of two coins
which were extensively discussed in the book. It is not of importance that the book was not mentioned, but that many important facts in the book were ignored and were available.

The Edge Lettering Device

Since the Castaing machine, being the device for lettering planchet edges, is so important to the study of the 1804 Dollar (p.27), another eighteenth century explanation of edge lettering is both corroborative and clarifying. The first encyclopaedia published in America was primarily a reprint of the third edition of the Encyclopaedia Britannica. The American publication was printed in Philadelphia, in parts, beginning in 1790 and being completed by 1798 which latter date it bears. The article on Coinage was of English origin and was written before the United States Mint was established. The portion relating to the Castaing machine (Vol. 5, p.130) reads as follows:

"The principal pieces of the machine (Fig. 1) to stamp coins on the edge, are two steel laminae, about a line thick. One half of the legend, or of the ring, is engraved upon the thickness of one of the laminae, and the other half on the thickness of the other; and these two laminae are straight, although the planchet marked with them be circular.

"When they stamp a planchet, they first put it between the laminae in such a manner, as that these being each of them laid flat upon a copper-plate, which is fastened upon a very thick wooden table, and the planchet being likewise laid flat upon the same plate, the edge of the planchet may touch the two laminae on each side, and in their thick part.

"One of these laminae is immoveable, and fastened with several screws; the other slides by means of a dented wheel, which takes into the teeth that are on the surface of the laminae on each side. This sliding lamina makes the planchet turn in such a manner that it remains stamped upon the edge when it has made one turn. Only crown and half-crown pieces can bear the impression of letters on the thickness of their edges."

A crude illustration of the Castaing machine is found on Plate 144 following Vol. 5, p. 284 in that encyclopaedia, and merely corroborates the ^{method of operation} ~~description~~ and illustration in The Encyclopaedia of the Dollar (p. 28, 29).

When an 1803 proof dollar (B-7) was offered for sale as Lot 3049 in the catalogue of an auction held January 7, 1963, there was an extensive description of the coin but there was no mention of any of the facts set out in the book relating to the coin's origin or its characteristics which indicated that its dies were made long after its date and that it was struck long after its date.

When the Davis 1804 Class III dollar was auctioned as Lot 1394 in the Wolfson Sale held May 3-4, 1963, the five page description in the catalogue did not include any mention of certain important facts about the coin included in the book. ~~This situation was pointed out incisively in~~ a Letter to the Editor of Coin World (May 10, 1963, p.58), ^{where} a reader commented: "Nowhere in the dealer's five page description is it mentioned that the coin is a restrike. Nowhere is it mentioned that the coin was struck about 40 to 50 years after it was dated." ~~The points raised by that letter~~
~~seem to be well taken.~~

Additional 1804 Alterations

The most "dated" 1804 Dollar alterations is one which purports^{ed} to be an 1804 dollar over an 1802 over an 1801. It

was described in Coin World, July 5, 1963, p. 63, and then advertised for trade in that paper on July 19, 1963, p. 87. This piece was properly described as an impossible coin by Don Taxay in Coin Wholesaler for October 16, 1963, and ~~in~~ readily recognized

nized as an alteration of an 1802 over ¹⁸⁰¹~~1802~~ Dollar (B-5). *Fortunately,*
in an endeavor to double the size of a coin, the mint, in 1801, did not
use the same die as the 1802, and the coin will not counter as the 1802.
There is an 1804 dollar in the Newark Museum, Newark,

New Jersey, in the large collection donated by Frank Liveright.

with the die marked
It is illustrated ~~in the~~ magazine (The Museum, Vol. 12, No. 3

~~(1960)~~ p. 19) as though it were a genuine piece. This coin is

likewise one of the many alterations which continue to deceive.

In 1962 type metal castings of an altered 1804 dollar were offered to dealers and collectors. The word REPLICA was incuse on the obverse under the curls. These forgeries ~~weighed~~ averaged about 335 grains in weight and had a specific gravity of 10.4 ~~g~~. The U.S. Secret Service confiscated as many as could be located.
Electrotypes From Class III Pieces

Interesting comments concerning electrotypes of 1804 dollars were made in sales catalogues prepared by Edward Cogan. In his September 16, 1878 sale, Lot 509 was an electrotpe of an 1804 dollar described as "Taken from a die made in 1858 and really more interesting than the altered dates." Cogan meant to say that it was the coin, not the die, which was minted in 1858, as the electrotpe was made from the coin. Cogan corrected himself in his catalogue of the sale on December 16, 1878 of the James E. Root collection where he described a dollar in Lot 59 as "1804 electrotpe. Taken from a dollar struck in 1858."

Changes of Ownership

When the Davis Class III 1804 Dollar in the Samuel W. Wolfson Collection (p.133) was auctioned on May 4, 1963, the high bid was \$36,000.00. No disclosure of the name of any new owner has apparently been made.

There also has been no disclosure of the owner of the Idler Class III 1804 Dollar (p.137) which was auctioned in 1961.

Published Comments
Appreciation

~~In addition to many kind letters which the authors received, the following Published comment~~ ^{on} ~~about~~ "The Fantastic 1804 Dollar" ~~are also most appreciated:~~

Lucinda Benzel, St. Louis Post Dispatch, Jan. 28, 1963, p. B 1;

Elston Bradfield, The Numismatist, Vol. 75, No. 11, (Nov. 1962), p. 1474;

Richard P. Breadon, Numismatic Literature, No. 63, (April, 1963), p. 549;

Walter Breen, "The Collector's Necessary Equipment", Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine, March, 1963, p. 657;

Oscar H. Dodson, Coin World, August 2, 1963, p. 48;

Lynn Glaser, "Numismatically Speaking", Numismatic News, Jan. 21, 1963, p. 30;

Lincoln Grahls, New York Times, ~~transcribed from~~ Oct. 21, 1962, p. X26, and New York Times International Edition, Oct. 22, 1962;

Bill Higgle, Numismatic News, Mar. 4, 1963, p. 5;

James C. Risk, The Numismatic Review, Vol. III, No. 5,
p. 275;

Glenn B. Smedley, The Numismatist, Vol. 75, No. 12,
(Dec. 1962), p. 1615;

David B. Spink and James C. Risk, "New Facts about an
Old American Coin", The Numismatist, Vol. 75, No. 11
(Nov. 1962) p. 1443;

Don Taxay, Counterfeit, Mis-Struck and Unofficial
U. S. Coins (New York, 1963), pp. 84, 215;

Raymond H. Williamson, Coin World, Jan. 18, 1963, p. 57;

Richard S. Yeoman, Coin World, Oct. 12, 1962, p. 37.

Typographical Errors

The following typographical errors ^{in the book} are noted:

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Quarter Eagle with motto instead of Half Eagle with motto.

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UPDATING THE FANTASTIC 1804 DOLLAR

by Eric P. Newman

Whenever a book is written, particularly when on a controversial subject, readers have the opportunity to make their comments in reviews, letters, books, articles, and by discussion. With respect to "The Fantastic 1804 Dollar" there was no dearth of such commentary. The authors likewise continued their research. Readers are therefore entitled to have a summary of all such matters to amplify and clarify the book. To coordinate these items references are given to the specific pages where related matter is found in the book.

The Siam 1804 Dollar

In the summer of 1962, in England, David Spink arranged for the writer to have the opportunity to examine the Siam specimen of the 1804 Dollar along with the case and the other presentation coins. (The Numismatist, December, 1962, p. 1610; Coin World, December 14, 1962, p. 42). It was noted that the Siam specimen was so clear that it showed that the reverse die break extended further than was noticeable on other Class I pieces (p.42). This die break across the top of NITED continues across the top of the wing tip and under the first S in STATES,

and was certainly caused by hardening of the die by immersion rather than in the course of the use of the die. All other characteristics of the Siam Dollar conformed with those of other Class I pieces. The weak and crushed edge lettering reads upright when the obverse is upright.

The revelation in 1962 of the 1804 Siam dollar in its presentation set (p.66) will rank as one of the great surprises in American numismatics and its publication deservedly received the Heath Literary Award. (David B. Spink and James C. Risk, "New Facts about an Old American Coin", The Numismatist, Vol. 75, No. 11, Nov. 1962, p. 1443; The Numismatic Review, Vol. III, No. 5, 1962, p. 217).

The Siam Coffin

The Presentation case holding the coins for the King of Siam was an attractive piece of morocco leather workmanship embossed with an American eagle and other insignia. The original yellow color has darkened where exposed to a dull golden brown color. Its dimensions are 6-1/8 inches long, 4-5/16 inches deep, and 1-1/16 inches high, and it has a seven pointed gold thumb piece for opening. Under the leather, the body of the

Presentation case is wood which is lined on the inside with dark blue velvet so that the original official reference to the case as a "coffin" was gruesomely accurate. (See illustration of the top).

Authorization Problems

As to whether anyone had specifically intended a silver dollar or an eagle, or both, to be included in the set of coins to be presented to the King of Siam and the Imam of Muscat, it was important to check on the authorization for the language of the letter dated November 11, 1834 from the Secretary of State to the Director of the Mint (p.63) where it was said that "The President has directed that a complete set of the coins of the United States be sent to the King of Siam and another to the Sultan of Muscat."

An examination of the papers of Andrew Jackson, in the Library of Congress and in the Archives of the United States, disclosed no written directive, instruction, or comment relative to the gift of coins. The communication from the President to the Secretary of State, therefore, must have been oral.

The question as to whether Mint officials were authorized, in 1834, to prepare new dies for an 1804 dollar and for an 1804 eagle depends upon the meaning of the words "complete set" and "specimens of each kind now in use". It was shown in the discussion of this matter (p.64) that silver dollars and eagles were not actually in use in November, 1834.

Assuming the directive was interpreted to require a dollar and an eagle to be included in the set this could have been satisfied (1) by including an existing dollar and an existing eagle of any date in choice condition, and (2) by making new dies for both a dollar and an eagle, dating them 1834, and striking coins from them of proper weight and fineness.

The opportunity to study the Siam presentation set served to prove that the proof 1804 eagle was made for the set and weighed $270\frac{1}{2}$. It therefore was made in violation of the Act of June 28, 1834, (effective July 31, 1834) requiring any eagle to weigh only 258 grains. The proof 1804 Eagle, even though minted during November or December, 1834, was sized according to the repealed standard of the Act of April 2, 1792 which had provided that an eagle weigh 270 grains. The proof 1804 Eagle, therefore, violated the Act of June 28, 1834. The

legal standard for the weight of the silver dollar had not been changed between 1804 and 1834.

Neither the President, the Secretary of State, Director of the Mint, or any other person in the public service had the power to violate any Act of Congress relating to coinage. It would therefore appear that the Mint officials exceeded their authority and violated the law (a) in placing other than the current date on coinage when, in 1834, they minted a proof 1804 Dollar and a proof 1804 Eagle, and (b) in using other than the proper legal weight in making the proof 1804 Eagle. They had devilment in their hearts when they did it.

Proof 1804 Eagle

The second highest star on the left side of the proof 1804 Eagle in the Siam set has a double cut point at 4 o'clock as do the other specimens struck from these antedated dies. The proof 1804 Eagle has identical edge milling to the half eagle, quarter eagle, quarter, and dime in the Presentation set indicating that the same edging dies were used in the Casting machine for all of them. The proof 1804 Eagle was not struck in a collar die as evidenced by the fact that the

*

dentils on the right side of the obverse are larger than the dentils on the left, which would not occur in a piece struck in a collar die because centering would be perfect. There is no wire edge on the coin and the statements on page 57 of the book that the eagle was collar struck and had a wire edge can now be corrected.

The DuBois Letter

The letter of William E. DuBois dated September 17, 1878 (p.96) giving an opinion on the Davis 1804 Class III dollar was illustrated and featured in the descriptive material in the sale of the Samuel W. Wolfson collection, held May 3-4, 1963, just as it was in the prior sales of the Davis 1804 dollar on April 8, 1954 and December 10, 1960. A further analysis seems appropriate as to how William E. DuBois made the error of diagnosing the Davis dollar as "one of the original issue - and not a 'restrike' from Mint dies."

The letter clearly shows that DuBois knew that there were two "specimens" of the 1804 dollar in the Mint Cabinet, one being a restrike (Class II) and the other being what DuBois termed an "original" (Class I). He was apparently unaware

that the reverse of the Davis dollar was from the same reverse die as the reverse of the Class II or restrike 1804 dollar in the Mint Cabinet and differed from the reverse die of the Class I piece. This die distinction, apparently, had not been noticed by 1878 when he wrote the letter, as Haseltine did not even note this fact in 1881 in his classification of dollar die varieties (p.91). It is possible that DuBois based his opinion as to the Davis piece on the fact that the Davis piece had a lettered edge just as the Class I Mint specimen did, whereas the Class II Mint specimen did not have a lettered edge. This does not excuse DuBois from being deliberately deceptive in the use of the words "original issue" even if he was in error in the conclusion he drew from the comparison of the Davis Dollar with the two Mint Cabinet specimens. He must have known the whole story of the origin of the 1804 dollars and should have used less whitewash.

Barnum was Right

The Watters Class I 1804 Dollar which was originally given to the Imam of Muscat (pp.67,126) was the topic of a conversation, in England, in 1962, between Fred Baldwin and

the writer. Baldwin explained that Watters bought the 1804 Dollar for six shillings from Maurice Eschwege, a money changer, pawn broker, and coin dealer at 47 Lime Street, Liverpool. Most English ships docked at Liverpool in the 19th Century and some sailor or voyageur probably sold the coin for silver value at Eschwege's exchange. Phineas T. Barnum, the great American showman, tried relentlessly to buy the coin from Watters for a spectacular exhibit in America, but Watters explained that the dollar would not be sold for any price since it was bought for practically nothing. Baldwin knew Watters well and had seen the 1804 dollar in his possession almost 60 years before.

Seizure Fears

In the 1884-5 period Edouard Frossard urged the prominent Philadelphia coin dealers to publish the whole truth about the restrikes of the 1804 dollars (p.91). John W. Haseltine and the Chapman Brothers were thus challenged but, nevertheless, remained silent. Twenty-three years later, at the 1908 American Numismatic Association Convention, Haseltine gave the explanation as to why he did not respond. He explained (The Numismatist, Vol. 21, No. 10, Oct. 1907, p.325): "Mr. Idler was my father-

in-law and he was very reticent about his collection. He would seldom show his coins even for sale. This was partially caused by the fear that any pattern or experimental coins he possessed might be seized. Hence the many remarkable pieces that have been found in his collection."

The fear of seizure could only exist because of Idler's knowledge of the improper activities of the Mint employes. He was the sales outlet for the Mint officials. Three 1804 dollars appeared first in Idler's hands (p.107). Thus, Idler's and Haseltine's real reason for failure to disclose the existence of the Idler 1804 Class III dollar until 1908 is clear and the other allegation of Haseltine that it was concealed because it was used for making restrikes was a lame excuse (p. 107). It was possible seizure by the Federal Government, which caused him to conceal the coins which he knew had a highly questionable status.

Taken For a Ride

In the discussion of the acquisition by Stickney of his 1804 Class I dollar from the United States Mint it was indicated that he took a horse drawn stage coach from New York to Phila-

delphia to make the exchange (p.73). Harold S. Bareford, owner of the Dexter 1804 Class I dollar, in a talk before the Metropolitan New York Coin Convention held May 2-5, 1963, properly pointed out that railroad service was available to Stickney. (Numismatic News, May 27, 1963, p. 50). Because the authors were not well enough "trained" in travel history, readers of The Fantastic 1804 Dollar may have been "taken for a ride" in this minor respect. This correction, however, cannot "railroad" readers into modifying their understanding that Stickney acted with reckless speed in parting with a unique Immune Columbia gold piece contrary to his statement that he did not part with any coins which were not duplicates, and that he tried to justify his action as honorable by stating that in 1843 an 1804 dollar was not considered any more valuable than a dollar of any other date, etc. (p.72).

Shunned

It is interesting to note that The Fantastic 1804 Dollar has been ignored in the sale catalogue description of two coins which were extensively discussed in the book. It is not of importance that the book was not mentioned, but that many important facts in the book were ignored and were available.

When an 1803 proof dollar (B-7) was offered for sale as Lot 3049 in the catalogue of an auction held January 7, 1963, there was an extensive description of the coin but there was no mention of any of the facts set out in the book relating to the coin's origin or its characteristics which indicated that its dies were made long after its date and that it was struck long after its date.

When the Davis 1804 Class III dollar was auctioned as Lot 1394 in the Wolfson Sale held May 3-4, 1963, the five page description in the catalogue did not include any mention of certain important facts about the coin included in the book.

In a Letter to the Editor of Coin World (May 10, 1963, p.58), a reader commented: "Nowhere in the dealer's five page description is it mentioned that the coin is a restrike. Nowhere is it mentioned that the coin was struck about 40 to 50 years after it was dated." The points raised by that letter seem to be well taken.

Additional 1804 Alterations

The most "dated" 1804 Dollar alterations is one which purports to be an 1804 dollar over an 1802 over an 1801. It

was described in Coin World, July 5, 1963, p. 63, and then advertised for trade in that paper on July 19, 1963, p. 87. This piece was properly described as an impossible coin by Don Taxay in Coin Wholesaler for October 16, 1963, and is readily recognized as an alteration of an 1802 over 1802 Dollar (B-5).

There is an 1804 dollar in the Newark Museum, Newark, New Jersey, in the large collection donated by Frank Liveright. It is illustrated in the magazine, The Museum, Vol. 12, No. 3 (1960), p. 19 as though it were a genuine piece. This coin is likewise one of the many alterations which continue to deceive.

Electrotypes From Class III Pieces

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~~and~~ was certainly caused ^{by} ~~the~~ hardening of the die by immersion in ^{the liquid} ~~the~~ rather than ^{long} ~~in the course of the use of the die~~. All other characteristics of the Siam Dollar conformed with those of other Class I pieces. The weak and crushed edge lettering reads up-right when the obverse is upright.

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The Presentation Case holding the coins for the King of Siam was an attractive piece of morocco leather workmanship embossed with an American eagle and other insignia. The original yellow color has darkened where exposed to a dull golden brown color. Its dimensions are ^{3 1/2} 6-1/8 inches long, ^{1 1/2} 4-5/16 inches deep, and 1-1/16 inches high, and ~~it~~ has a seven pointed gold thumb piece for opening. ^{Beneath} ~~Under~~ the leather, the body of the

legal standard for the weight of the silver dollar had not been changed between 1804 and 1834.

Neither the President, the Secretary of State, Director of the Mint, or any other person in the public service had the ~~authority or undertake any violation of~~ power to ~~violate~~ any Act of Congress relating to coinage. It would therefore appear that the Mint officials exceeded their authority and violated the law (a) in placing other than the current date on coinage when, in 1834, they minted a proof 1804 Dollar and a proof 1804 Eagle, and (b) in using other than the proper legal weight in making the proof 1804 Eagle. They had devilment in their hearts when they did it.

Proof 1804 Eagle

The proof 1804 eagle in the Siam set has a double cut point at 4 o'clock as do the other specimens struck from these antedated dies.

The proof 1804 Eagle has identical edge milling to the half eagle, quarter eagle, quarter, and dime in the Presentation set indicating that the same edging dies were used in the Castaing machine for all of them. The proof 1804 Eagle was not struck in a collar die as evidenced by the fact that the

dentils on the right side of the obverse are larger than the dentils on the left, which would not occur in a piece struck in a collar die because centering would be perfect. There is no wire edge on the coin and the ~~statements on page 57~~ ^(p. 57) of the book that the eagle was collar struck and had a wire edge can now be corrected.

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The letter clearly shows that DuBois knew that there were two "specimens" of the 1804 dollar in the Mint Cabinet, one being a restrike (Class II) and the other being what DuBois termed an "original" (Class I). He was apparently unaware

The Edge Lettering Device

Since the Castaing machine, being the device for lettering planchet edges, is so important to the study of the 1804 Dollar (p.27), another eighteenth century explanation of edge lettering is both corroborative and clarifying. The first encyclopaedia published in America was primarily a reprint of the third edition of the Encyclopaedia Britannica. The American publication was printed in Philadelphia, in parts, beginning in 1790 and being completed by 1798 which latter date it bears. The article on Coinage was of English origin and was written before the United States Mint was established. The portion relating to the Castaing machine (Vol. 5, p.130) reads as follows:

"The principal pieces of the machine (Fig. 1) to stamp coins on the edge, are two steel laminae, about a line thick. One half of the legend, or of the ring, is engraved upon the thickness of one of the laminae, and the other half on the thickness of the other; and these two laminae are straight, although the planchet marked with them be circular.

"When they stamp a planchet, they first put it between the laminae in such a manner, as that these being each of them laid flat upon a copper-plate, which is fastened upon a very thick wooden table, and the planchet being likewise laid flat upon the same plate, the edge of the planchet may touch the two laminae on each side, and in their thick part.

"One of these laminae is immovable, and fastened with several screws; the other slides by means of a dented wheel, which takes into the teeth that are on the surface of the laminae on each side. This sliding lamina makes the planchet turn in such a manner that it remains stamped upon the edge when it has made one turn. Only crown and half-crown pieces can bear the impression of letters on the thickness of their edges."

A crude illustration of the Castaing machine is found on Plate 144 following Vol. 5, p. 284 in that encyclopaedia.

1858 Mint Regulations

If there is any doubt that it was improper, in 1858, to strike 1804 dollars, or any other coin to be sold at a premium (p.75), the regulations issued by the Mint before the discovery of the Class II 1804 dollars are revealing. Pertinent portions of INSTRUCTIONS RELATIVE TO THE TRANSACTION OF BUSINESS AT THE MINT OF THE UNITED STATES AND ITS BRANCHES, published in 1858, by James Ross Snowden, Director of the Mint, are as follows:

" 8. No profit can accrue to any officer, clerk, or workman of these institutions, by reasons of the legitimate operations thereof, and no private or extra official work can be done therein, with or without compensation or reward, by any such officer, clerk, or workman. If this rule be violated by any officer or clerk, the fact shall be reported to the Treasury Department. If violated by any workman, he will be forthwith dismissed.

" 26. The principal officer of each department of business will report to the Director (or Superintendent) any instance of neglect of duty, or want of fidelity, in any of the persons employed in his department, and also make a like report if he has reason to suspect the integrity of any person so employed. "

In spite of the exposure of the scandal of 1858 relating to the 1804 dollar, and the requirements of the regulations, there is no official report of the matter to be found and no dismissal of personnel resulted.

All coins found in the Siam Presentation Set have brilliant proof surfaces. They weigh as follows:

1834 Half Cent	84 grains	
1834 Cent	159-1/2	"
1834 Dime	42-3/4	"
1834 Quarter	103-1/4	"
1834 Half Dollar	208-3/4	"
1804 Dollar	414-1/2	"
1834 Quarter Eagle	64-3/4	"
1834 Half Eagle	128-1/4	"
1804 Eagle	270-1/2	"

The half dollar has a normal milled edge and its border dentilation extends to the edge on each face. It is from different dies than the proof 1834 half dollar with crushed edge dentilation. 1834.

All coins found in the Siam Presentation Set have brilliant proof surfaces. They weigh as follows:

1834 Half Cent	8 1/2 grains	
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The half dollar has a normal milled edge and its border dentilation extends to the edge on each face. It is from different dies than the proof 1834 half dollar with crested edge lettering. (p.59).

11/29/67

THE SIAM COFFIN

holding a name for the King of Siam

The Presentation case was an attractive piece of

morocco leather workmanship embossed with an American eagle.

The original yellow color had darkened ~~from exposure~~ to a

dull golden color. ~~The case measured 5-1/2" x 4-5/16" x~~

and 1-1/16" ~~and had a~~ seven pointed gold thumb piece for opening.

Under the leather, the body of the Presentation case is wood

which is lined on the inside with dark blue velvet so that

the original official reference to the case as a "coffin"

was gruesomely accurate. *(A coffin is a box)*

11/29/63

✻

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[illegible]

November 29, 1963

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As to whether anyone had specifically ~~authorized~~ a silver dollar or an eagle, or both, to be included in the set of coins to be presented to the King of Siam and the Imaum of Muscat, it was important to check on the authorization for the ~~letter~~ ^{document} dated November 11, 1834 from the Secretary of State to the Director of the Mint (p. 63) where it was said ~~that~~ "The President has directed that a complete set of the coins of the United States be sent to the King of Siam and another to the Sultan of Muscat."

An examination of the Andrew Jackson Papers, in the Library of Congress, ~~as well as~~ ^{as} in the Archives of the United States, disclosed no written directive, instruction, or comment relative to the gift of coins. The communication from the President to the Secretary of State, therefore, must have been oral.

The question ^{is} ~~of~~ whether ~~the~~ Mint officials were authorized, in 1834, to prepare ~~the~~ dies for an 1804 dollar and for an 1804 eagle ~~revolves~~ ^{depends} on the meaning of the words "complete set" and "specimens of each kind now in use". It was shown in the discussion of this matter (p.64) that silver dollars and eagles ^{actually} were not in use in November, 1834.

The opportunity to study the Siam ~~and~~ brought to ~~light~~ ^{was made for the set made} that the proof 1804 eagle weighed 270½ grains ~~and was~~.

inset X

3B

Assuming the direction was interpreted
to require a dollar and an eagle type included
in the set they could have been satisfied

2. By making a new die for ~~both~~
a dollar and an ~~eagle~~ eagle, ~~and~~ dating them 1834, and
striking coins from them of all gold ~~and~~ ^{and} silver ~~and~~ ^{and} copper;
1. By including the existing dollar and an
existing eagle ^{of any date} in their condition.

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therefore, made in violation of the Act of June 28, 1834,
(effective July 31, 1834) requiring any eagle to weigh 258
grains. The proof 1804 Eagle, made during November or December,
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proof 1804 Eagle, therefore, violated the law. The legal
standard for the ~~amount~~ of the silver dollar had not been
changed between 1804 and 1834. Neither the President, the
Secretary of State, Director of the Mint, or any other person
in the public service had the power to violate any Act of
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1804 Eagle, and also as to weight in making the
1804 Eagle. They have done this in their private

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PROOF 1804 EAGLE

The second highest star on the left side of the proof 1804 Eagle in the Siam set has a double cut point at 4 o'clock as do the other specimens struck from these antedated dies. The proof 1804 Eagle has identical edge milling to the half eagle, quarter eagle, quarter and dime in the Presentation Set indicating that the same edging dies were used in the Castaing machine for all of them. The proof 1804 Eagle was not struck in a collar die as evidenced by the fact that the dentils on the right side of the obverse are larger than the dentils on the left, which would not occur in a piece struck in a collar die. *As the dentils are perfect* There is no wire edge on the coin and the statements on page 57 of the book that the eagle was collar struck and had a wire edge ~~are~~ now corrected.

Class I Mint specimen did, whereas the Class II Mint specimen did not have a lettered edge. This does not excuse DuBois from being deliberately deceptive in the use of the words "original issue" even if he was in error in the conclusion he drew from the comparison of the Davis Dollar with the two Mint Cabinet specimens.

He ~~states~~, the whole story of the origin of the 1864 dollar, and should have ~~been~~ ^{been} ~~more~~ ^{more} ~~careful~~ ^{careful} in his conclusion.

In the Wolfson-Sale Catalogue the description of the

1864 Class III dollar is five pages in length. In a letter to the Editor of Num. World (May 10, 1963, p. 38), a reader expressed his shock in the dealer's five page description in it mentioned that the coin is a counterfeit. No where is it mentioned that the coin was struck about 40 to 50 years after it was issued. These comments were authentic and were in-
cluded in the original description. The description of the coin was not accurate enough.

These comments were not taken into account.

The printer's marks of the letter are all taken.

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THE DAVIS COUNTERFEIT LETTER

The letter from William E. DuBois dated September 17, 1878 ^(p. 91) ^{giving an opinion on} ^{Part} the Davis 1804 Class III dollar was again

illustrated and featured in the descriptive material in the ^{Let. of 11-3-1881} May 30, 1859 sale of the Samuel W. Wolfson collection just as it was in the prior sales of the Davis 1804 dollar on April 8, 1954 and December 10, 1960. A further analysis seems appropriate as to how William E. DuBois made the error of diagnosing

the Davis dollar as "one of ^{the} original issue - and not a 'restrike' ^{restrike}"

The letter clearly shows that DuBois knew that there were two "specimens" of the 1804 dollar in the Mint Cabinet, one being a restrike (Class II) and the other ^(Class I) ~~(Class II)~~ which DuBois termed ^(Class I) "original". He was apparently unaware that the reverse of the Davis dollar was from the same reverse die as the reverse of the Class II or restrike dollar in the Mint Cabinet and differed from the reverse die of the Class I piece. This die distinction, apparently, had not been noticed by 1878 when he wrote the letter, Haseltine did not ^{note} note this fact in 1881 in his classification of dollar die varieties ^(p. 91) (p. 91). It is ^{possible} possible that DuBois based his opinion as to the Davis piece on the fact that the Davis piece had a lettered edge just as the

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THE 1804 DOLLAR

The Watters Class I 1804 Dollar which was originally given to the Imaum of Muscat (pp. 67, 126) was the topic of a conversation, in England, in 1962, between Fred Baldwin and the writer. Baldwin explained that Watters bought the 1804 Dollar for six shillings from Maurice Eschwege, a money changer, pawn broker, and coin dealer at 47 Lime Street, Liverpool. Most ~~of the~~ ships docked at Liverpool in the 19th Century and some sailer or voyageur probably sold ~~it~~ for silver value at Eschwege's exchange. ~~E. T. Barnum, operating the~~ ~~American Museum, vigorously~~ tried to buy the coin from Watters for a spectacular exhibit in America, but Watters ~~said~~ that ~~he would not sell it at any price since he bought it for~~ practically nothing. Baldwin knew Watters well and had seen the 1804 dollar in his possession almost 60 years ago.

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SEIZURE FEAR

In the 1884-5 period Edouard Frossard urged the prominent Philadelphia coin dealers to publish the whole truth about the restrikes of the 1804 dollars (page 91). John W. Haseltine and the Chapman Brothers were thus challenged but, nevertheless, remained silent. Twenty-three years later, at the 1908 American Numismatic Association Convention, Haseltine gave the explanation as to why he did not respond. He explained (The Numismatist, Vol. 21, No. 10, Oct. 1907, page 325): "Mr. Idler was my father-in-law and he was very reticent about his collection. He would seldom show his coins even for sale. This was partially caused by the fear that any pattern or experimental coins he possessed might be seized. Hence the many remarkable pieces that have been found in his collection." ^{FF} The fear of seizure could only exist because of Idler's knowledge of the improper activities of the Mint employees, ~~with whom he connived~~. He was the sales outlet for the Mint officials. Three 1804 dollars appeared first in Idler's hands (page 107). Thus, Idler's ^{and} Haseltine's real reason for failure to disclose the existence of the Idler 1804 Class III dollar until 1908 ^{is} ~~became~~ clear and the ^{other} ~~the~~ ^{allegation of Haseltine} that it was concealed because it was used for making restrikes was a lame excuse (page 107). It was seizure by the Federal Government which caused him to conceal the coins ^{which} ~~he~~ knew had a highly questionable status.

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TAKEN FOR A RIDE

In the discussion of the acquisition of the Stickney

1804, Eliza T. Miller from the United States hint it was indicated
that ~~Stickney~~ had a horse drawn stage coach to Philadelphia
to make the exchange (p. 73). Harold S. Barford, owner of the
paper, 1804 Eliza T. Miller, in a talk before the Metropolitan
New York State Convention held May 2-3, 1962, pointed out that
allotted service was available to Stickney. (Hudsonian News,
May 27, 1963, p. 10). As to the record The Fantastic 1804
Miller ~~papers~~ may have been taken for a ride" because the
authors were not well versed "twice" in travel history, but
this defect "nationalist" readers into any modification in con-
clusions. The change in transcription did not change the
speed with which Stickney acted, the inconsistency of his
statements, or any of the conclusions to be drawn from his
actions.

The

(p. 12)

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SHUNNED

It is interesting to note that
The Fantastic 1804 Dollar and its factual content has been ignored in the description in sale catalogues of two coins which were extensively discussed in the book. Perhaps ~~if the book had given a more complimentary background for the coins such shunning might not have taken place.~~

[When an 1803 proof dollar (B-7) was offered for sale as Lot 3049 in the catalogue of an auction held January 7, 1963, there was an extensive description of the coin but there was no mention of any of the facts in the book about the coin's origin or its characteristics which indicated that its dies were made long after its date and that it was struck long after its date.

When the Davis 1804 Class III dollar was auctioned as Lot 1394 in the Wolfson Sale held May 3-4, 1963 the five page description in the catalogue did not include any mention of the book or of certain important facts about the coin included in the book.

In a letter to the Editor of Coin World (May 10, 1963, p.58), a reader commented: "Nowhere in the dealer's five page description is it mentioned that the coin is a restrrike.

Nowhere is it mentioned that the coin was struck about 40 to 50 years after it was dated." The points raised by that letter are well taken.

[Faint handwritten notes at the bottom of the page]

July 1941

~~Handwritten text, mostly illegible due to fading and bleed-through.~~

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Electrotypes from Class III Pieces

Interesting comments

~~Further Comment~~ concerning electrotypes of 1804 dol-

lars ~~were~~ made in sales catalogues prepared by Edward Cogan.

In his September 16, 1878 sale, Lot 509 was an electrotype

of an 1804 dollar described as "Taken from a die made in 1858

and really more interesting than the altered dates." *Cogan meant to say that it was a copy of the original die, not the die itself.*

has thought that the die for the 1804 dollar was made in 1858

not the die, but the coin from which the electrotype was made was minted in 1858, as the electrotype was made from the coin.

~~and not the die made then~~ but Cogan corrected himself in his
on December 16, 1878
catalogue of the sale of the James E. Root collection ~~on~~

December 16, 1878 where he described ~~the~~ ^a dollar in Lot 59 as

"1804 electrotype. Taken from a dollar struck in 1858."

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CHANGES OF OWNERSHIP

When the Davis Class III 1804 Dollar in the Samuel W. Wolfson Collection (p. 133) was auctioned on May 4, 1963, the highest bid was \$36,000.00. ~~So far as can be ascertained there has been~~ No disclosure of the name of ^{any} the new owner. ~~has~~ *apparently been made.*

There also has been no disclosure of the owner of the Idler Class III 1804 Dollar (p.137) which was auctioned in 1961.

APPRECIATION

In addition to many letters ^{and} ~~which~~ the authors received
 the following ^{about "The Fantastic 1804 Dollar"}
 Appreciation of Published comments by the
 following persons are ^{also} most appreciated by the authors:

(5) X H. Dodson, Coin World, August 2, 1963, p. 48;

(1) X Glenn B. Smedley, The Numismatist, Vol. 75, No. 12 (Dec. 1962), p. 1615;

(9 1/2) X David B. Spink and James C. Rish, "New Facts about an old American Coin," The Numismatist, Vol. 75, No. 11 (Nov. 1962), p. 1443;

(4) X Walter Breen, "How to Stay Ahead of Coin Forgers"
 → the Collector's Necessary Equipment; Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine, 1963, p. 657;

(5) X Lynn Glaser, "Numismatically Feels", Numismatic News, Jan. 21, 1963, p. 30;

(2) X Clifton Bradfield, The Numismatist, Vol. 75, No. 11 (Nov. 1962), p. 1474;

(10) X Don Toney, ~~has struck off~~ Counterfeit, Mrs. Struck and Unofficial U.S. Coins (New York, 1963), pp. 84, 215;

(7 1/2) X Bill Higgin, Numismatic News, Mar. 4, 1963, p. 5;

(8) X James C. Rish, The Numismatic Review, Vol. III, No. 5, p. 275;

(11) X Raymond H. Williamson, Coin World, Jan. 18, 1963, p. 57;

(12) X Richard Yeoman, Coin World, Oct. 12, 1962, p. 37.

(1) X Lucinda Benzel, St. Louis Post Dispatch, Jan. 28, 1963, p. B1;

(3) X Richard P. Bresnan, Numismatic Literature, No. 63 (April 1963), p. 549;

(7) X Lincoln Grahlf, New York Times, Oct. 21, 1962, p. X26,
 and New York Times International Edition, Oct. 22, 1962;

Appreciation of letters from the

TYPOGRAPHICAL ERRORS 11/1/63

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The following typographical errors are noted:

Page 31, line 21: J. P. Droz instead of H. P. Droz

Page 70: Caption to illustration should read

Quarter Eagle ^{with motto} instead of Half Eagle ^{with motto}.

Page 84, line 5: James R. Snowden instead of

John R. Snowden

Page 143: J. P. Droz instead of H. P. Droz

~~Page 143~~